

THE
METROPOLITAN.

JULY, 1836.

LITERATURE.

NOTICES OF NEW WORKS.

The King's Own. By Capt. MARRYAT. 3 Vols. Second Edition.

We are most happy to see a re-issue of this work, which, at its first appearance, excited so much attention, and the interest of which has been so constantly preserved, as much by its own surpassing merits as by the clever series of works by the same prolific and humorous writer. Of the "*King's Own*," it may be justly said, that it is the epic of all nautical narratives. There is in it that to move all the gentler passions, rouse all the nobler. The action of the piece is generally stirring and lofty, and the narrative teems with valorous deeds. There are heroes, in the truest sense of the word, among the characters. It is true, that this exciting novel commemorates an unfortunate, some may think, a disgraceful period of our naval history; but this misfortune was ultimately productive of great good; this disgrace was the parent of honour, of victory, and a never-dying national glory. In justly condemning and showing the inevitable consequences of military insubordination, the gallant captain stretched forth the hand of justice to assist the oppressed seaman, and shamed the tyrant, lashed the peculator, and, throughout, bravely proved himself the sailor's friend. We certainly think that this novel has given a better tone to those parts of the service in which the foremast man comes in actual contact with his officer. The latter now always respects the sterling though rough merit that is found under the tarry jacket or disguised in the homely language, and the former sees in his officer an example, and forgets that obedience has its hardships in the manliness of his affection for him who exacts it. This novel is founded on some heart-rending incidents connected with the mutiny at the *Nore*; a mutiny that assuredly caused more tears than blood to flow. To those few who have not read these national volumes, we would direct their attention to the first half of the first volume. In the perusal, the reader will forget every thing in the sublimity of the pathos that will overpower him, and he will be unconscious, either of the fineness of the writing in which it is conveyed, or the great magnitude of events by which it is accompanied. He will think nothing of this stern but necessary vindication of a nation's supremacy of her brave, rash, and rebellious sons. His feelings will remain at home;

ne will cry out to spare the misguided mutineer, he will weep with the bereaved—the infant—truly, emphatically, mournfully, “The King’s Own.” But the novel is not all of this melancholy cast. When the sadness of the reader’s feelings has had due time to subside, the occasional bursts of the captain’s honest English humour make their most welcome appearance. This work has long taken a first rank among the first of the classic fictions of the country—it has been made familiar to foreigners by numerous translations, and should, we do not hesitate to say, be found in the collection, however small or large, of every man’s books who loves his country, who honours the arduous service that has protected and carried it triumphantly through so many dangers, or who has a bosom that can sorrow over the unfortunate and mourn the untimely fate of the misguided brave.

Home, or the Iron Rule. A Domestic Story. By SARAH STICKNEY, Author of “The Poetry of Life,” “Pictures of Private Life,” &c. 3 Vols.

Miss Stickney is one, and a very eminent one too, of those gentle and elegantly-inspired monitresses, whose writings tend so much to soften our sterner natures, and to convince us that morality and beauty are in one and the best sense, synonymous terms. Her “Poetry of Life” was a human translation of the divine command, “Be happy;” and if it have not been read rightly, we have nothing but our own sordid natures to thank for it. The moral that this lady has elaborated in the well-written volumes before us, is a most important one, and we are sure will have the effect of correcting many errors of the well-meaning and the good. Yes, of the good and of the well-meaning. Alas! it is their faults, their mistakes, that are so mischievous, and so dreadful, in their consequences. Against the errors and the machinations of the wicked we are prepared—we resist, we overcome. But a vice in the hands of a good man—a vice that the wielder of it conceives to be a virtue, what a dreadful engine of oppression, what a powerful inflicter of wrong it is! All this the tale of Miss Stickney shows to demonstration. “The Iron Rule:” excellent title! It is the domestic one, that in which the iron goes to the heart’s core, against which she wars. And then her contrasts are so beautiful. We are not going to do the authoress the injustice to give the reader an outline of her plot, for an outline of any sort would be unfair to the merits of this excellent work. The exquisite art that she has displayed in the general and gradual developement of her story, should not be damaged by anticipations. But, perhaps, no story less depended upon a good plot, yet fewer have got a finer one. We cannot do better than give our readers an extract from the work itself, depicting the monarch of the iron sceptre: it must be a long one, and yet all too short for justice.

“When the morning came, however, Mrs. Lee was a little puzzled how to reconcile her preconceived ideas of the proper occupation of the sabbath, with the manner in which it was spent by her friends. Almost all the members of the family dreaded, and some loathed, its strictness, its monotony, and its dull dead calm; and therefore all took advantage of the prolonged slumbers of Mr. Grey, to extend their own to the latest period his discipline would allow. Then followed the struggle so fatal to domestic peace—the struggle against time, producing a scene of confusion, hurrying, and discord; with blame thrown here and there; harsh words bandied to and fro; and servants, and those who could not or dared not defend themselves, left smarting under a sense of suffering and wrong; in order that a decent procession might be seen in due time moving under the banners of religion to the house of God.

" It was a sight half comic, half melancholy, to see the poor little Greys in their nursery, thrust from one impatient hand to another, screaming under their hasty ablutions, and smarting from the violence of their tumultuous toilet—some of the most daring mopping and mowing at their persecutors, and then in a moment, at the sound of an imperious bell, stealing silently down the stairs, and along the hall, into their father's presence; where with sleek hair, and features as inexpressive as those on their china cups, they sat like moving but insensible figures, so constructed as to perform the functions of humanity, without its enjoyments or its pains.

" Stephen Grey, the father of this promising family, was a man who gravely and thoughtfully studied the laws of his country, its politics, and the religion of his forefathers; he had even obtained a smattering of philosophy under some of its most practical forms; but of the study of the human heart he had scarcely condescended so much as to think. He loved his children, because they were his own; he determined to make them good citizens, because it was decent and politic to be so; and good Christians, let us hope for a better reason. In business, his alacrity, promptness, and ability, were such as to render his influence extensive; while in his household, the will of the master was law. Whatever he chose to plan, or put in execution, passed without question or comment, unless behind the scenes; for like Falstaff he refused to tell his reasons on compulsion, and was equally impervious to every other mode of attack. If in this respect, however, he resembled the jolly knight, it must be acknowledged that the instance stood alone; for in mind, person, and general bearing, he might be concisely described as the direct opposite of that laughter-loving hero. His light blue eyes were seldom known to deviate from their impenetrable look of glassy coldness, and when they did, it was to be darkened by a frown, not animated by a gleam of light. Over his pale high forehead, divided across the middle by two rigid lines completely parallel, rested a few locks of thin fair hair, combed smoothly oftener than the day, and shorn of their exuberance whenever they were felt to wave in the wind, or resist the pressure of the composing hand.

" A smile has destroyed the harmony of many a face, but with Stephen Grey it was not so. On the very few occasions when this variation of his features appeared, his smile was noted as being so entirely free from all light, gross, and even sinister expression, as to correspond entirely with his upright, strong, unvarying character: just as a gleam of sunshine in passing over the rugged mountain, only serves to reveal more clearly its hardness, its sterility, and its strength.

" It need scarcely be added, that the words of Stephen Grey were few; for never did any human being successfully aspire to be dignified and important, without practising, as if by a kind of instinct, the art of speaking little, and of so modifying that little, that the variation of the simplest tone or gesture, shall mark it with more emphasis than the elaborate discourse of less weighty men. Indeed, there is some reason for suspecting, that in such tones and gestures consist the mystery of greatness; for, repeat what a man of this stamp has said, and it frequently amounts to nothing; but listen, and observe the imperative movement of the head, the lips compressed as if the bursting forth of an unguarded or extraneous word would produce convulsions in the mighty frame; and, deep into your stricken soul will sink the various intonations of the voice uttering sounds whose meaning beggars that of words, from the shrill rebuke, through all the gradations which denote contempt, down to the low deep growl of disapprobation.

" We often skrink away wounded and irritated from the presence of such a person, yet unable to say why; for if we would recall his words, merely as words, they tell for nothing; while as indications of the speaker's meaning, with all their inimitable accompaniments, they have told more, a thousand fold, than we wished either to know or feel.

" Of this class of lancinating speakers was Stephen Grey; and yet he spared his neighbour when absent, and never dealt in idle gossip. His forte was to lash the sore, and he did it in such a way as left no possibility of appeal. Too haughty for contest, he seldom brought forward a direct charge; but in common conversation he could leave his sting, and pass on, without noticing the wound, or explaining why it was inflicted. It is but charitable to suppose that more than half the pain he gave was unintentional, for he knew nothing of the peculiar feelings of those around him; and thus often punished where he meant to please, but seldom pleased where it was his wish to punish. He believed that all human beings were to be governed by the same *iron rule*, and that the errors of all might be corrected by the same chastisement. The principle upon which he maintained his authority was that of implicit

obedience; but he overlooked the most important part of *moral* government, the necessity of making obedience a matter of choice, and not of *compulsion*. Had Stephen Grey permitted the good-will he really felt for his fellow creatures, sometimes to appear before the eyes of men, more especially had he occasionally been known to sacrifice his own personal gratification for that of others, he might have won more affection from the warm young hearts around him; but it is not in human nature to love long or consistently the being who never makes any sacrifice of self, or who never exhibits such natural signs of tenderness as create a bond of protection and dependence between the powerful and the weak.

"Let who would be sick, or sorry, around the board or the hearth of Stephen Grey, his was the choice portion, and the warmest place. Not but that these privileges would have been willingly conceded to him as a right; but his manner was one that conveyed the idea of seizing rather than receiving; and it is wonderful the difference these two ideas produce in the feelings of the party whose place it is to resign.

"Yet with all these alarming peculiarities, Stephen Grey was a good neighbour, a lover of peace, an impartial judge, a powerful defender of the injured, and in short, a man who maintained both in his private and public life, a character of the most scrupulous integrity, and independence."

Who does not, at first sight, confess this picture to be true to the very life, and does not recognise in it many features too prominent in the neighbours around him? How many unhappy subjects does one tyrant-king Stephen Grey produce! And this is not, by far, the worst of the mischief. All those that have been oppressed, if they should be fortunate in the world, become themselves, in their turn, oppressors, if fortunate, if unfortunate, sycophants. Even the awful and God-delegated supremacy of the father is founded upon justice. He must be obeyed, because it is right, not because he wills it. Contrast two parents, one ruling only by love and by example, the other upon his *ipse dixit*, and sheer terror. Let but the former, for a short moment, show the least displeasure—how awful, how impressive, how effective it is; whilst the ravings, and even the blows, of the latter, are submitted to as a matter of course, producing resentment instead of reformation. But to see all this beautifully exemplified, let the reader possess himself of Miss Stickney's work.

Adventures in the North of Europe; illustrative of the Poetry and Philosophy of Travel. By EDWARD WILSON LANDOR. 2 Vols.

The domestic happiness, and the degree of civilisation of the north-eastern portions of Europe, are but little known in the countries more favoured by climate. Its political importance, and the magnitude of the empire to which it belongs, have induced many distinguished travellers to reach and pass the snow-encircled capitals of Russia: Moscow and St. Petersburg, are comparatively well known. But little interest is felt or expressed about what is going on in Copenhagen, Stockholm, and Bergen, excepting by the diplomatist, the merchant, or the geographer. Mr. Edward Landor, in the work before us, has done well and done much to dissipate this general apathy. But he did not travel with pomp and circumstance; with a wallet on his shoulders, and a trusty stick in his hand, he perambulated over many provinces, associated with the humble and fared with the peasant, and, consequently, as he left much to chance he met with many curious, and some very touching, adventures. He sought not only for the usual advantages, but also for the poetry of travel; for wherever the finger of God had written his glory in the steep mountain, or the vast and silent lake, Mr. Landor read the imperishable text, and his bosom immediately vented its gushing feelings in poetry. The philosophy, also, of travel, he has illustrated in its utility, in weigh-

ing the advantages of the different grades of society in various nations, and in bringing home to the mind those reflections that, if properly entertained, or if even entertained at all, cannot fail to make us both wiser and better. There is, also, a romantic and curious fiction connected with these travels. The supposed traveller is a clergyman, who is travelling in search of peace for a heart lacerated by a severe domestic affliction, consequently the tone of the whole work is beautifully moral, instructive, and subdued. This is more remarkable in the second than in the first volume. We make the following extract, not because it is a favourable specimen of the author's style, but on account of its intimate connexion with English associations, and our immortal bard.

"About a mile behind the town of Elsinore is a small summer palace of the king, and here are the gardens called the Hamlet gardens, supposed to be the scene of that famous tragedy. I ought not, perhaps, to give judgment on the gardens themselves, as I beheld them so early in the season, that they had not recovered from the desolation of winter. Their chief ornament, at that time, consisted of about a dozen leaden statues painted white, Grecian gods and goddesses, heroes and heroines, all looking as starved and miserable as nudity in the climate of Denmark could make them. Beyond the palace, and running parallel with the sea at a quarter of a mile's distance, is a long bank covered with wood, which affords a delightful retreat for retirement and contemplation. The sea breeze is pure and exhilarating. The castle of Cronborg, below us, stands forth a noble and imposing object; and beyond it, the long line of the opposite Swedish coast preserves the eye from the weariness of a waste of waters.

"The castle of Cronborg is a very handsome building, and, by the Danes, accounted a strong fortress. In approaching it we have to cross three drawbridges, over as many moats. The garrison at present is slight, but the proper complement is said to be four thousand men. The view from the batteries is truly beautiful. There are vaults under the ramparts for the inhabitants of Elsinore to flee to whenever their town should be attacked. The menial offices of the fortress are performed by slaves—convicted felons who have been sentenced to this punishment. Our worthy king, James the First, spent a month in this castle. His bride, the Princess of Denmark, being detained, whilst on her passage to Scotland, by contrary winds on the coast of Norway, and, indeed, having in consequence resolved to pass the winter in that country, her royal husband became so impatient of her absence that he resolved to go himself to meet her. Accordingly he went, and remained some time in Norway, where he received an invitation to visit the king of Denmark, his father-in-law. The two kings met in the castle of Cronborg, then a royal residence, and the visit was agreeably spent in a round of gaiety and feasting—there being great rivalry between the Danes and Scots as to their respective capacities for drinking; and so earnest was the contention that many very surprising feats were performed on both sides.

"I fear my readers are tired of remaining so long at Elsinore, but I am particular in describing it, as it is a very good specimen of a Danish town, and, the rather, as I do not intend to be so diffuse in future. The first objects which strike the eye of a stranger in a foreign land press deeply into the memory; he examines with anxiety, and records with minuteness. But the novelty wears off in a few days; what appeared remarkable at first, becomes now matter of course, and if he afterwards meet with anything extraordinary, it scarcely has the power to affect him with surprise, because he is now, as it were, *familiar with unusual sights*. We therefore generally find that a traveller is most anxious to record his first impressions on entering a strange land, and that he afterwards observes with less attention, and narrates with less detail.

"I spent a sabbath at Elsinore, and attended divine service in the Lutheran church. It is a mean building externally, but the interior is gorgeous, and encumbered with gilding and ornament. There is, however, a beautiful screen, and a noble altar-piece of carved oak. That which struck me most in the edifice, was a number of raised pews, like separate galleries, which had glazed sash windows and curtains; so that the inmate had as much privacy as if he remained by his own fire side; and should the season prove displeasing to his taste, he had only to close the window and draw the curtain, and he might slumber in silence and peace. Of course, these exclusive seats belonged only to the most refined of the gentry, whose

sensitive feelings naturally shrink from the popular gaze. There is also, down one of the side aisles, a whole series of these boxes with glass windows, which have much the appearance of the stalls in Covent Garden market.

"The clergyman was, of course, in the Lutheran habit: a black gown, with a ruff round the throat. His sermon was long, but he had a quiet earnestness of manner, and a persuasive eloquence that pleased and attracted. I admired his discourse, though I did not understand a word of it. There were some of the congregation who understood without seeming to admire; and it is therefore probable that I returned at least as much edified as these."

We heartily recommend these beautiful and unpretending volumes to the reader's attention. They will afford him much valuable and curious instruction, and they are quite as amusing as is the best concocted fiction, be it either novel or romance.

Florigraphia Britannica; or, Engravings and Descriptions of the Flowering Plants and Ferns of Great Britain. By RICHARD DEACON, F.R.C.S.E., and ROBERT MARNOCK, Curator of the Sheffield Botanical and Horticultural Gardens.

We have received the first twelve numbers of this periodical, the title of which fully indicates their subjects. After giving the class and order of each plant or fern, the work next proceeds to give every curious and useful miscellaneous information connected with it. Indeed, the subject is fully and excellently elucidated, without any thing like verbosity. We will give one specimen of the manner in which this is done.

GENUS II. VERONICA. *Speedwell.*

Nat. Ord. SCROPHULARINÆ.

GEN. CHAR. *Perianth* double. *Calyx* of one piece, inferior, persistent, divided into four deep segments. *Corolla* wheel-shaped (*rotate*), deeply four cleft, the lower segment smallest. *Capsule* two-celled. The derivation of the name of this beautiful genus has much puzzled botanists: Sir J. E. Smith says, "Its common etymology is of a mule kind between Greek and Latin, from *verus*, or or rather *vera*, true, and *εικον*, a figure; and this, illiterate and barbarous as it is, has the sanction of the superstitious legend of St. Veronica, whose handkerchief is recorded to have received the impression of our Saviour's face, as he used it in bearing his cross to the place of crucifixion. But we find nothing analogous in any of the herbs which have borne this name, nor any character, true or false, stamped upon them, except that of their own peculiar beauty." There exists to this day a difference of opinion as to the pronunciation of the name; and it was to the settling of this question that the controversial inquiry was mainly directed. "If," adds the learned authority above quoted, "there be any truth in its Greek origin, the *i* must be long; but if otherwise, the analogy of *Betonica* may justify the usual practice of throwing the accent on the *o*."

* *Spikes or racemes terminal.* (*Root perennial.*)

1. *V. spicata*, (Fig. 5.) *spiked Speedwell.* Spike terminal, stem erect, undivided, branching at the base, leaves opposite, oblong, tapering at the base, serrated, downy, lower or radical ones broader, ovate and stalked.

English Botany, t. 2.—English Flora, vol. i. p. 17.—Lindley, Synopsis, p. 188.—Hooker, British Flora, vol. i. p. 5.

Stem four to ten inches high, erect, downy. Lower *Leaves* opposite, broader, serrated or crenated in the middle, entire towards the extremities, upper ones long and narrow, serrated or entire, sometimes alternate. *Spike* terminal. *Flowers* numerous, dark blue. *Bractees* linear. *Calyx* remarkably downy, twice as long as broad. *Capsule* in the immature state downy.

Habitat.—Chalky ground about Bury St. Edmund's and Newmarket Heath. Rare.

Perennial; flowering July and August.

We conceive the subjects of this periodical to be almost inexhaustible, as the first twelve numbers, containing more than one hundred pages of small and close letter-press, have got no farther than the second order of the third class.

Schloss Hainfeld ; or, a Winter in Lower Styria. By Captain BASIL HALL, R.N. F.R.S.

This very clever and amusing author, having been, through satiety, afflicted with a fit of the deplorables, amidst the magnificence of Rome, and finding the air rather oppressive, determined, with no fixed determination whither to proceed, to seek for the health and spirits of which the eternal city had deprived him. He had scarcely passed the confines of ennui and malaria, than he chanced upon an old acquaintance, in the person of a Polish countess, with this name, horrible to the palate, and dangerous to the teeth, Rzewuska. She brought him, from the heroine of this work, the following very curious and very characteristic invitation.

“ MY DEAR SIR,

“ With a grief which I cannot express, I discovered a few minutes ago, on looking over the little register of my letters, that I had addressed my answer to yours not to Rome, but to Naples. It was a degree of absence worthy of your good grand uncle, of absent memory ; but I have not, alas ! the apology of genius to plead. My mistakes are owing to a very different cause of late—to the state of my health. For more than three years I have been the victim of rheumatism, or what some physicians are pleased to call the *tic-douloureux-volant*. This cruel disease has torn my nerves in pieces, and when I am agitated, as I was when I received your letter—so dearly welcome to me—I became quite confused. Pardon, my dear sir, my seeming delay in answering your letter. I wrote instantly, but my silly letter is literally *poste restante* in Naples. I hope these lines will reach you safely, and convince Mrs. Hall and you how unfeignedly happy I shall be to see you and your little darlings. It will indeed be most gratifying to me if you will allow the infants to repose here for a few weeks, and find in Hainfeld the quiet of home. Your excellent Scotch nursery-maid will revive me with letting me hear once more the language of my heart. She shall arrange all here exactly as she wishes, and, I trust, make the dear children comfortable. The house is very large ; there are thirty-nine rooms on this floor. Not only your family, but any friends you choose to bring along with you, can find place enough. The country is truly healthy, the soil rich and well cultivated, and the hills and distant mountains covered with forests. The people resemble their oxen—they are diligent and docile. There are few neighbours, except in Hungary, (three hours' distance from this ;) and Hungary is a country little known and deserving your attention. Styria is also a country little known, owing to the singular fancy or fashion of the English always to fly between Vienna and Italy, by the way of Tyrol. Kotzebue says, ‘ The English carry their prejudices, as they do their tea-kettles, all over the world with them.’ This, in general, is merely an impertinence ; but in what respects the Tyrol roads, it holds true ; our road is in many respects preferable.

“ You inquire as to the state of the roads. They are excellent. The Eilwagen, a kind of diligence, takes regularly fifty-five hours between Trieste and Gratz, and twenty-five hours between Gratz and Vienna. As man and beast in Austria move discreetly, this, with the aid of your post-map, will show you the true state of the roads.

“ The tenure of property in this country is very different from the English ; and I would fain, were it possible, excite your curiosity as to Styria. The constitution of the American States interested you. Why should not ours do so ? The country is divided into circles ; mine contains 4,200 souls. My bailiff collects all the taxes within the circle ; manages the conscription ; the police ; the criminal justice in the first instance, the property of minors, &c. &c. He must have passed his trials as an advocate, and I must pay him and his assistants, or what is called my

chancery. I defy the public affairs, in as far as this goes, to cost less to a government. The said bailiff also collects the dominical, or what is due to me, and manages the landed property, which, as we have no farming, is kept, according to the Scotch phrase, in our own hands. The first crop of hay was housed yesterday, so if you travel with your own horses, good food is ready for them. After the wheat and rye are cut down, buck-wheat is sown, which can ripen even under the snow. It is the food of the peasantry, as oatmeal was formerly of the Scotch Highlanders; but the crop from the best ground is sold off to pay the very high taxes. The people are good and docile. The noblesse, owing to the dreadful war, &c., are mostly on short commons. We have no poor, which, owing to the question in England respecting the poor-laws, is deserving of being noticed. No man is allowed to marry till he can prove he is able to maintain a wife and children; and this, with the law of celibacy of the clergy, and the caution required of the military *—almost an act of celibacy—are checks on population which would make the hearts of Mr. Malthus and Miss Martineau burn within them for admiration. The result is, the entire demoralizing of the people. The mask of religion helps nothing. At the last grand jubilee, in the next parish, seventy-two pairs of virgins adorned the procession, dressed in white, and covered with garlands of flowers. In eight months forty-four of them were in the family way. Madame Nature is not a political economist, and she does not let her laws be outraged with impunity.

"As another motive to visit Styria, there is a physician at St. Gothard, three hours from this, who works all the miracles ever wrought, except raising the dead. Were I not virtually dead, I would consult him. He is a Homeopathic; forty-nine thousand sick have been with him since November, and all believe in his infallibility. The Alleopathic school endeavour to suffocate the system of Hannemann, but in vain. A question of such consequence to the human race, and so easily decided on the spot, is surely deserving of your investigation.

"I am ashamed to send you so tedious a scrawl, but you will pardon me, for you know it is out of the heart the mouth speaketh. May I trust you will induce Mrs. Hall to 'unfatigue' herself and her little angels, in this Tadmire in the wilderness? I have nothing, alas! to offer you all but my hearty welcome. God knows it is sincere. In haste, for I fear to lose a post. I bid you, my dear sir, farewell.—11th June. My address is simply Gratz. N. B. There is a respectable library here."

After some adventures, Captain Hall and his family went, and their visit hath given birth to one of the most pleasant volumes that we have ever read. It has all the features of a romance, and the *dénouement* of a well-wrought and pathetic novel. The old lady, almost at the time eighty years of age, had been bed-ridden for nearly four years; but with a mind unimpaired, and her organs of sense in full vigour. This lady was formerly a Miss Cranstoun, whom the Baron Purgstall married, and with whom she spent forty years of chequered happiness and misery. The Purgstalls were formerly, and even so lately as at the decease of the last baron—or count, we believe was the proper title—some of the oldest, wealthiest, and most influential of the Austrian nobility. He had an only son, who died at the age of nineteen: his estates were ravaged by the French during Bonaparte's wars of aggression, and impoverished at the peace by Austrian exactions, to make good the heavy expenses incurred in the very troubles by which he suffered, and to avert which, he fought, bled, and was made prisoner. It was wise, perhaps, for a man so persecuted, to die, and he was hardly cold, when seventy-two heirs-at-law pounced on his possessions, and would have turned out his Protestant and Scotch widowed countess destitute on the highway. She bore up against all this, and ultimately retained, after numerous lawsuits, the property with which, at her marriage, she became endowed. The Halls stayed in her castle six months, attended her dying, and buried her dead. What makes

* "No officer in the Austrian army is allowed to marry, unless he previously deposits a sum of money in the hands of government for the maintenance of his widow and children in the event of his death. The sum varies with the rank of the officer.—B. H."

the character of this old lady the more interesting, is, that she was the first lady who properly appreciated and encouraged the genius of Sir Walter Scott; and, in return, he has immortalized her in the character of Di Vernon. There is, at the end of this volume, a most touching letter from Sir Walter to this amiable old lady, which, of itself, is sufficient to sell an edition of the work. We wish that we could find sufficient space to extract it. Every body will read this book, and thus every body will see how very just are our commendations of it.

Some Thoughts on Education. By JOHN LOCKE, Esq. *With Notes, and an Historical Account of the Progress of Education in Egypt, Persia, Crete, Sparta, Athens, Rome, amongst the Early Christians, and in the Middle Ages.* By J. A. ST. JOHN.

As now, the universal cry is "Educate, educate, educate," it might be advisable in the fulness of our zeal, now and then, to cease our noise and enquire into the best manner of doing it; and, to assist us in an examination so momentous, it would not be amiss to discover what great thinkers and philosophers thought upon the subject. Locke here offers you his erudite and well-digested pages, if you will deign to make use of them, and Mr. St. John the results of his great and profitable experience. This book should be read, and not only read, but studied. The education, not of our own sons, daughters, and connexions only, but of all classes, and of the lower orders especially, concerns us nearly. By-and-by, and, by-the-bye, the by-and-by is not far distant, when education will be a question of property: its ill-applied power is endangering it at present; it will endeavour to do more shortly. Already have books been published—there is one at this moment lying on our table, which would deprive land and money of the qualification of voting, and give the elective franchise to educated intellect, upon a graduated scale, so many votes for English, for Latin one, Greek one, mathematics two, &c. &c., but for good sense and probity, 0! We heartily wish that all members of either house of Parliament would make themselves fully acquainted with the contents of this sensible work of John Locke. How much more reasonably many of them would talk, and how much more slowly they would act upon the momentous subject of national instruction. When a town is in a state of turbulence and commotion, would it be a wise corporation that took that opportunity of putting arms, *indiscriminately*, into the hands of all classes? However, we are to have a surplus of cash in Ireland, and then we shall go on educating famously:—truly we are not, in our collective wisdom, quite so foolish as our imaginary town council.

Popular Geography: a Companion to Thomas's Library and Imperial School Atlases. By ROWLAND BOND, Lecturer on Geography and Mathematics to the London Institutions.

The public utility of this little treatise demands from our pen a much longer notice than our limited space will afford us. The arrangements that Mr. Bond has adopted are most judicious; indeed, he has treated geography as it deserves to be treated—even in this elementary work—as a science. The reader and the pupil will also find that the style of the language in which so much valuable information is conveyed is much superior to the generality of the works of this class. From the nature of the undertaking, it could not possibly enter much into detail, but what

is prominent, and of an absolute necessity to be known is, in no case, omitted. The part devoted to the ancient world is of a very superior description, and has all the conciseness, the disposition of parts, and the beauty of a well-written essay. To all those who possess the Atlases, this work is a *sine quâ non*, and independently of them, no elementary treatise will be found more useful or more engaging.

Tour of a German Artist in England; with Notices of Private Galleries, and Remarks on the State of Art. By M. PASSAVANT. 2 Vols. *With Plates.*

Neither the solidity or magnificence of our public buildings, the extent of our commerce, the perfection of our manufactures, the admirable working of our social institutions, or the unsurpassed beauty of our women, brought this clever and inquisitive gentleman among us. He came to look after what, no doubt, he thinks has an interest far beyond all these—our pictures—to acquaint us which are, and which are not, genuine; to make us happy in the knowledge that the nation has given some thousands of pounds for indifferent copies, under the impression that they were originals from the easels of the old masters. Nor has his paternal solicitude stopped here—he has relieved us from an intolerable portion of self-conceit and vanity, in proving to us at what a low ebb is the state of the fine arts in England, that of painting the more especially. Now all this is not only pleasant, but profitable. He has also furnished us with a catalogue *raisonnée* of almost every picture of supposed consequence in England, having had free access to every collection, private as well as public. This alone would make these volumes valuable. Much as we admire this work, we must candidly confess, that we differ from some of the dicta in almost every page. The artist has seen with German eyes. Altogether, it is a book that should be possessed by every body, on many accounts, not the least important of which is, that it is an effectual guard against the frauds of that most fraudulent class, the picture-dealers. In reading this work, a very curious reflection occurred to us. At the approach of this German gentleman, even without the trouble of saying, “Open, Sesamé,” the doors of all places have expanded themselves to him from the palaces of royalty to the obscure collections of the vampers up of Sheffield tea-boards, (*traders* in pictures know what we mean.) Now we should like to know if the same facility of ingress would have been afforded to an English artist of the like or even much greater pretension. We say it with shame for the little patriotism and just feeling among us, that we know that there would not. Ask any English artist with what difficulties he meets in gaining entrance to even mediocre collections. All this, however, does not in the least deteriorate from the merits of Mr. Passavant. He has made a useful book, which is very well translated, and, as we before said, it merits general attention from the English public.

Gil Blas. No. I.

Of the various editions of this work of Le Sage none are more calculated than the present to obtain and to keep public approbation. The embellishments, which are of wood, are very fine, and are by the celebrated French artist, Jean Gigoux; they evince all his fineness of touch and richness of imagination; indeed, the whole work, not forgetting the printing, is got up in a very superior manner.

Rhymes, Romantic and Chivalrous. By D. W. D.

There is not a single original idea in the whole book, but beautiful, very beautiful is the melody of the verse, and elegant the arrangement of the thoughts and sentiments which that verse so musically conveys. We believe that a new idea is as difficult for the moderns to find now, as was a new pleasure to the ancients. Though to us, originality of first principles seems all but impossible, yet we often find, and always have a right to expect, something like novelty in the arrangement of those materials that lie scattered so profusely through the fields of our poetical literature. This novelty we do not find in the volume before us. Every subject is treated, very properly, and very poetically; we cannot point out any poem that is absolutely faulty, but, in all truth, we must confess, that there is not one that we can select, that rises far beyond a very elegant mediocrity. We think, then, being impressed with this conviction, that the work, for the author's sake, ought not to have been published. As far as the interests of some future writer may be concerned in inundating the press with poetry that neither offends or pleases too much, it is an advantage. The present age is certainly very industrious, and very successful, in making a vast level on the regions of literature. *Tant mieux* for the next person who will be able to erect a temple upon it, that may boast of some pretensions to magnificence, some features of graceful loftiness.

History of England by Hume and Smollett, with a Continuation by the REV. T. S. HUGHES, B. D.

This publication has now advanced to the twentieth volume, which volume embraces a portion of our history included between the years 1813 and 1824. This is very well and impartially written by Mr. Hughes. His description of the Battle of Waterloo will be read with much interest: it is vivid and spirit-stirring. We understand that the success of this publication has been very great. This is no more than it merited. We should suppose that it cannot be brought down much farther, and that another volume will complete this great work. History is an affair of that magnitude, that we should not contemplate it too nearly. Twenty years is hardly sufficient to enable us to view this vast subject in all its bearings, and in its just proportions. Records, of course, should be brought down to the very day; but even these, when they are too recent, cannot afford a just light by which events may be read faithfully and correctly.

Pic Nics from the Dublin Penny Journal, being a selection from the Legends, Tales, and Stories of Ireland, which have appeared in the published volumes of the Dublin Penny Journal, illustrated by Characteristic Engravings. By MR. B. CLAYTON, JUN.

This judicious selection from a multitude of good things, forms a first-rate collection of short, and highly interesting stories, some of which are of the very highest order of fiction. They are all eminently descriptive of the manners of the Irish, and the brogue throughout is luxuriantly rich. The first tale, "Darby Doyle's Voyage to Quebec," is a fine specimen of natural Irish humour, and that mixture of simplicity and acuteness so indicative of the national character. We can very safely recommend this volume as one which contains a great store of genuine amusement, and the variety of which will prove no small charm to the reader.

The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club, containing a Faithful Record of the Perambulations, Perils, Travels, Adventures, and Sporting Transactions, of the Corresponding Members. Edited by Boz. With Illustrations by R. W. Boz.

The third number of this amusing work is well sustained, with the same humour and drollery that have made the preceding parts so popular. The fat boy improves upon us, and we find that he turns out to be not quite so great a fool as the world had generally supposed. His betrayal of the loves of the elderly Mr. Tupman, and the not less elderly Miss Wardle, to his mistress, is a very rich scene. The cricket-match, also, is well described. We are glad again to meet Mr. Jingle on the scene, though he is but a sad rogue at best, and comes but to create all manner of mischief. We predict that these papers will never be at a discount, though we prophecy that there will always be a great run made upon the publishers for them. Mr. R. W. Boz has done his part well, and much lessens our regret at the want of Mr. Seymour's spirited hand.

The Popular Encyclopedia, being a General Dictionary of the Arts, Sciences, Literature, Biography, History, and Political Economy; Reprinted from the American Edition of the "Conversations Lexicon," &c.

This encyclopedia, which very deservedly takes to itself the title of popular, has now advanced to the first part of the fourth volume, and embraces subjects, the initials of which are included between the letters H and L. This part is introduced by a well-written and masterly dissertation, from the pen of Allan Cunningham, entitled, "The Rise and Progress of the Fine Arts," and which is deserving of the closest attention. It will add greatly to his reputation. As this encyclopedia not only marches with, but also keeps in the van of science, it must be the best publication of the sort, of the day. We have looked over most of the articles of this part, from none of which do we find the least occasion to dissent. We might have wished some of them to have been treated more fully, but when we remember the vast variety of subjects which the work must necessarily embrace, this wish would have appeared a little unreasonable. We commend this encyclopedia to the public patronage.

The Pictorial Bible, being the Old and New Testaments, according to the authorized Versions. Illustrated with many Hundred Incidents, representing Historical Events, &c. &c. To which are added Original Notes, &c. &c.

It is our pleasing duty to notice the fourth part of this very valuable work, and to inform the public that it keeps pace with its predecessors in all that made them so valuable. This portion embraces those parts of the holy writ that are contained between the eighth chapter of Leviticus and the tenth of Maccabees; and almost every other page is furnished with an excellent and most interesting engraving. The notes are clear, copious, and erudite, and, when this work shall have attained its completion, it will be, perhaps, the very best copy of the scriptures extant. Its sale, from the numerous advantages that it possesses, must be prodigious.

Library of Fiction ; or, Family Story Teller, consisting of Tales, Essays, and Sketches of Character, Original and Selected.

Our admiration of the two former numbers of this periodical must not prevent us from saying that this the third is not equal in general merit to their predecessors. "Boz's" talk about the spring and the sweeps is very good talk certainly, but after all, it is talk, and nothing more. "Destiny" does not deserve the fate that it has found in being published. However, the diary of a surgeon is decidedly good, and gives us the promise of something much better. Altogether we are pleased.

The Floricultural Magazine, and Miscellany of Gardening. Conductor, ROBERT MARNOCK.

This cheap and, if well prosecuted, useful periodical is chiefly filled by communications on important subjects by practical men. A sort of manual of experience. Should it excite the attention due to it, it will become a very popular undertaking. We wish that Mr. Marnock had styled himself the editor, and not the conductor, for the honour and the dignity of periodical literature. Omnibusses boast of their conductors, a sort of *cad-mean* personages that ought not to preside over magazines.

Summary of Works that we have received, of which we have no space to make a lengthened notice.

A Sketch of Medical Monopolies, with a Plan of Reform. By JAMES KENNEDY, M.R., C.Y.S.—An able and useful work, deserving of general attention.

The Principles of Physiology applied to the Preservation of Health, and to the Improvement of Physical and Mental Education.—A fourth edition, this, of Dr. Combe's admirable work. We noticed the first with the high commendations that it deserved.

Observations on the Advantages of Emigration to New South Wales, &c.—This pamphlet is addressed principally to the labouring classes, and to them will prove of great utility.

A Concise System of Mathematics in Theory and Practice. By ALEXANDER INGRAM, revised by JAMES TROTTER.—This is a third edition, and admirably adapted to the use of schools and students in general.

An Introduction to the Criminal Law of England, in a Series of Familiar Conversations.—A good little work, and should be universally read by all who have not a deep insight of our penal laws—a very large portion of the community.

Noureddin ; or, the Talisman of Futurity. An Eastern Tale. By CATHERINE I. FINCH.—A pretty enough ephemeral fiction. The authoress has not very clearly worked out her moral, though she has been unscrupulous enough in drawing upon our credulity for her materials. When we make use of the impossible, it should be with the greatest skill possible, or we sink into the improbable and the absurd.

Geology.—Remarks on Bishop Sumner's "Appendix" to his work, entitled, "The Records of the Creation." By the Rev. R. FENNEL.—A well meant, but most injudicious pamphlet. Why does the reverend gentleman so loudly and mischievously cry, "Wolf?" If the extract of

the manuscript poem be a sample of the whole, we would, in the spirit of friendship, advise the author to let it be a manuscript always.

Darnley; an Historical Drama. In Three Acts. By HAMILTON GEALE, Esq.—If Mr. Geale be content with this drama, so are we. The world will, we fear, remain in ignorance of the cause of this our mutual happy feeling.

Hints upon Tints, as produced by the Lead Pencil.—A catchpenny.

A Guide to St. Petersburg and Moscow, &c. &c. By FRANCIS COGHLIN.—A very good and instructive little work, though rather an expensive one.

The Tribunal of Manners: a Satyricon.—Very clever, very caustic, and very coarse.

A Pleasant Peregrination through the Prettiest Parts of Pennsylvania, performed by PREREGRINE PROLIX.—This author minds his P's more than he attends to his cue. The work is a pleasant one, however.

Histoire de France du Petit Louis. Par Madame CALLCOTT.—A little book containing much pleasant reading for little folks.

The Garland; or Chichester, West Sussex, and East Hampshire Repository. Edited by L. SIMMONDS.—A new periodical, of the smallest size, to which we wish great success.

Proposals for an Intellectual Franchise; or, the Rights of Intellectuality to Represent in the House, and Representation out of the House of Commons, in Contradistinction to, and Exclusive of, the Rights of Franchise and Representation, as conferred by the Present System of Property Qualification, &c. &c. By W. JOYSE.—Pretty plain speaking out this:—a hundred years hence, and then.

Prideaux's Genders of French Nouns.—To the French student this work will be very valuable, as an assistant to his obtaining a perfect knowledge of this, nearly the most difficult department of his task.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

- Booth's Analytical Dictionary of the English language, corrected edition, with appendix. 4to. 45s.
 Edward's Hecuba of Euripides, Porson's Text, with English prose translations and notes. 8vo. 3s.
 Rider's Principles of Perspective, illustrated with twenty-seven lithographic figures. 8vo. 7s. 6d.
 Etheridge's Apostolic Ministry. 12mo. 3s.
 Entick's Tyronis Thesaurus. New edition, square. 5s. 6d.
 Lothian's Bible Atlas. Third edition. 24mo. 3s. 6d.
 Lothian's County Atlas of Scotland. New edition. 4to. 31s. 6d.
 The Rhenish Album, or Scraps from the Rhine. 12mo. 12s. 6d.
 Supplement to Evan's Statutes, by T. C. Granger. 2 vols. 8vo. 2l. 2s.
 Parkin on the Treatment of Epidemic Cholera. 8vo. 5s.
 Magazine of Domestic Economy, Vol. I. 6s. 6d.
 British Cyclopædia, (Geography and History.) 3 vols. 8vo. 45s.
 The Florist's Magazine, Vol. I. Small paper, 32s.; large paper, 52s. 6d.
 Rennie's Alphabet of Angling. New edition. 18mo. 2s. 6d.
 Kirk White's Poetical Works. 32mo. 2s.
 Dodsley's Annual Register. Vol. LXXVII. 16s.
 Mornings with Mama. Fourth series. 18mo. 4s. 6d.
 Silvertop's Geology of Granada and Murcia. 8vo. 10s. 6d.
 Sandford on Female Improvement. 2 vols. 12s.
 Proctor's (Rev. W.) Sermons. 12mo. 7s.

- Thompson's (Mrs.) Commentary on the New Testament. 2 vols. 8vo. 21s.
 Histoire de France. Par M. Calcott. 18mo. 4s.
 Kenrick's Introduction to Greek Prose Composition. Part I. 12mo. 4s. 6d.
 A Popular View of Homœopathy. By the Rev. Thomas R. Everest. 8vo. 6s.
 Cherville's First Step to French. Second edition. 3s.
 Wood's (Miss) Meetings for Amusing Knowledge. 12mo. Plates, plain, 5s. 6d.; coloured, 6s. 6d.
 Walker's Beauty in Woman. Illustrated by Howard. Royal 8vo. 31s. 6d.
 Winkle's British Cathedrals. Vol. I. imp. 8vo. 21s.; royal 4to. 42s.
 Chambers's Educational Course, (Rudiments of Chemistry.) 12mo. 1s. 4d.
 The Magazine of Zoology and Botany, conducted by Sir W. Jardine, Bart., P. J. Selby, Esq., and Dr. Johnston. No 1.—June. 8vo. 3s. 6d. To be continued every alternate month.
 An Inquiry into the Pathology, Causes, and Treatment of Puerperal Fever. By George Moore, Esq., F.R.C.S. 8vo. 6s. 6d.
 Parkis on the Antidotal Treatment of Epidemic Cholera. 8vo. 5s.
 Reminiscences in Prose and Verse; with the Epistolary Correspondence of many Distinguished Characters, and Notes and Illustrations. By the Rev. R. Polwhele. 3 vols. fcp. 8vo.
 Syria, the Holy Land, Asia Minor, &c., illustrated. Part III.
 Derby, Chester, Nottingham, &c., illustrated. Part IV.

LITERARY NEWS.—WORKS IN PROGRESS.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte's Memoirs are now in the Press in London and Paris, and as the entire manuscript is completed, and in the hands of Messrs. Saunders and Otley, whom the Prince has appointed his Publishers in England, France, and America, no delay in the progress of the work will take place, beyond that which will be required for preparing the several editions.

Mr. Chorley's Memorials of Mrs. Hemans are in considerable forwardness. We understand the work will be a very delightful one, containing a large collection of her Private Letters, and a beautiful Portrait and View of her house, and surrounding scenery.

The new Dramatic Work which Mr. Bulwer has in the press, will contain Cromwell, a Tragedy, and the Duchess de la Vallière, a Play, in Five Acts.

Sir Grenville Temple's new work on Greece and Turkey, is nearly completed, and will be embellished with some beautiful Engravings from his very valuable collection of Drawings.

The Floral Telegraph, with Illustrative Engravings, explanatory of this new and elegant system of communication by Flowers, is nearly completed.

A Second and Improved Edition of that very clever and interesting work, Adventures in Search of a Horse, with some admirable Sketches, by Cruikshank, is announced for immediate publication.

Anthologie Française; or, Selections from the most eminent Poets of France. Second Edition, considerably improved, with many Additional Notes. By C. Thurgar, Norwich.

The name of the Editor of the Monthly Repository, having always been avowed, from the time it ceased to be a sectarian magazine, the proprietors think it due to their subscribers, as well as to their contributors, (among whom so many of the first writers of the time are included,) to state that the active management will in future devolve upon R. H. Horne, Author of the "Exposition of the False Medium," &c. "Spirit of Peers and People," &c. Under this new arrangement, W. Fox retains his interest in the work, which will be conducted on the same principles, and directed to the same objects as heretofore.

General Statistics of the British Empire. By James M'Queen, Esq.

FINE ARTS.

Rurford's Panorama of Isola Bella, the Lake of Maggiore, &c. Leicester Square.

We may safely say, notwithstanding some minor errors inseparable from a work so large, that this picture is the triumph of panoramic painting. Hitherto, works of this description have been faithful, very faithful representations of nature, in her every day dress, but the view of Isola Bella combines with fidelity some of the highest attributes of pictorial poetry. We are sure that none who have any the least pretensions to taste, will omit taking an early opportunity of visiting this splendid display of the scenic art.

Stanfield's Coast Scenery. A Series of Views in the British Channel, and on the Coasts of England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, and other Picturesque Portions of the European Continent, from Original Drawings taken expressly for this Work, by CLARKSON STANFIELD, Esq. R. A. Dedicated, by Permission, to the King.

As yet, we have only received the numbers of this beautiful work up to the twelfth, which contains first, a view of the Eddystone Lighthouse, with the sea surrounding it, agitated by a brisk gale, and a vessel urged helplessly on, in a rather dangerous situation. It forms, notwithstanding the smallness of the scale on which it is executed, a grand picture. Land's End, Cornwall, the second plate, is a very interesting plate. It is merely a jagged rock, but there is a vast expanse of sky and water beyond it. One likes to see how one's country terminates. Worthbarrow Bay, Dorsetshire, is a view peculiarly English and bold, and done in Stanfield's best manner. There is a wreck upon the coast, as usual. The Grèves, from the summit of Mount St. Michael, is a vast extent of shifting sands, which in their barren uniformity, contrast finely with the rich gothic architectural display of the top of the cathedral. This spirited and highly talented work should be possessed by every one who is proud of the fine arts of his country.

Switzerland, by WILLIAM BEATTIE, M.D., Graduate of the University of Edinburgh, Member of the Royal College of Physicians of London, &c. &c. Illustrated in a series of Views, taken expressly for this Work, by W. H. BARTLETT, Esq.

We understand that this admirable work has at length been brought to a conclusion, though we have received only up to the twenty-fourth Part, containing views of the Hofbrücke, Lucerne, from the Pont de la Cour, of Lake Lemau from opposite Lord Byron's Villa at Coligny, of the statue of Arnold Von Winkelreid, at Stanz, and, lastly, of the Gorge of the Tamina, Baths of Pfeffers, this last plate inscribed to Dr. James Johnson. All these views are good, the last, especially, has in it something of the sublime. The letter-press seems to improve upon us, good as it has always been, as it is about to take its leave. We suppose that we shall receive the final numbers, and then we shall also have something to say at our leave's taking.

Ryall's Portraits of Eminent Conservative Statesmen.

We do not know with whom the idea of this publication originated, but it is an excellent one, and so far it has been very excellently put in execution. It is significant of the times, but of a very cheering significance. It is right that all loyal subjects should be thus made familiar with the persons and looks of the heroic guardians of those institutions that, if allowed to exist uninjured, will perpetuate to them every blessing that is consistent with social security and rational liberty. The first portrait, as by right, is that of his Grace the Duke of Wellington. It is engraved by Mr. Ryall, after a powerful likeness by Sir Thomas Lawrence. Altogether it is a masterly performance, and will place the engraver in the highest rank of his list. The next portrait, that of the Right Honourable Lord Lyndhurst, from Chalon, is more happy in the refined and acute expression of his lordship's physi-

ognomy, than in a *fac simile* of his features. It is a portraiture of his mind. The engraving of this is also exquisite. The portrait of Lord Wharnccliffe is that of a gentleman of deep thinking, and is a good likeness. The work is altogether an excellent specimen of the fine arts. The letter-press that accompanies the engravings is of a clear and concise character, giving only the principal outlines of the careers of the noblemen, and must be looked upon more in the light of clever notices, than in that of biographies. We wish heartily, and we do not think that we wish vainly, that every remuneration, both as to profit and fame, may accrue to the originators of this work, and that such may be the case, our hearty recommendations, both public and private, shall not be wanting.

We have received from M. A. Schloss, two proofs of lithographs, one elucidating Goëthe's admirable *Dream of the Bottle*, the other, the *Vanitas! vanitatum Vanitas!* by the same incomparable author. When we state that the artist, Mr. Schroedter has caught the inspiration of Goëthe, we think that our praise cannot go beyond this assertion. The engraving is fantastic, grotesque, and replete with the wildest spirit. Nor has Mr. Henretether done less justice to the song, as far as the subject permitted him, it being necessarily of a tamer character than that of the *Bottle Dream*. Those who can purchase these truly intellectual treats, and do not, understand the art of mental enjoyment but very imperfectly.

THE DRAMA.

COVENT GARDEN.—The last month will be an era in dramatic affairs; the successful production of a play, founded upon principles hitherto considered undramatic in England, is the landmark by which it will be recognised. *Ion*, a tragedy, by Mr. Serjeant Talfourd, induced many of the aged amongst us again to revisit the scene of early association, and excited more strongly than ever the theatrical enthusiasm of the young. Although the Greek drama is the model after which *Ion* is drawn, and the idea of the hero taken from Euripides, yet the author is indebted to his own imagination for the plot, and the developement of character. The *Ion* of Euripides is an exposed infant, carried to the Temple of Delphos, educated there till a state of manhood, constantly employed in the service of the god, and sequestered from the business of the world. His religious education had impressed his mind with the deepest sense of virtue, and his retired life had thrown around him the most amiable and modest simplicity; such, also, is the being portrayed by Mr. Talfourd, ever acting from pure and upright motives; courage, wisdom, feelings the most acute, and determination unalterable, are the necessary attributes of such a creation, over whom the unassailable web of destiny is cast. In the Greek tragedy, is generally represented the struggle of man with destiny, in a state of freedom, without moral or religious restraint; in it is contrasted inward liberty with external necessity; in this play is drawn the voluntary fulfilment of fate.

The absence of the classical drama in England has hitherto not been felt, or if recognised, the want has not been regretted; this has been principally owing to an apprehension, lest we should fall into the error of the French tragedy. The brilliancy, politeness, and refinement of the Parisian court, pervades every Greek hero, mother, or daughter of the old French theatre. They are Greek but in name; their sentiments, conversation, actions, or position, belong not to the severe simplicity of antiquity; they are French, altogether French: even nature has no participation with their sayings and doings; art is made to correct and supersede nature: in that atmosphere alone does the former achieve a victory over the latter. The result of this is, that the French have deformed their delineations of passion and character with almost the same success as they did the human form; their gallantry, miscalled love and ostentation, nick-named heroism, make us laugh, and shrug up our shoulders, equally as did the full-bottomed wig and hooped petticoat of the days of the *grand monarque*; and then the intrusion of the stupid confident, ever exclaiming, "Juste ciel," "Grand Dieu." This incongruity of our neighbours has also been charged by a foreign critic against Addison's *Cato*, and perhaps with justice: the hero of this Roman tragedy, it is asserted, exhibits the character of our

country, in a certain deep and profound way of thinking, and a certain unattractive carriage, inconsistent with the facility of manner of the Romans, and that all the characters appear to be English gentlemen.

One of the great merits of Mr. Talfourd's tragedy is, that while the subject of his play, and the working out of his plot are classical, or not of the romantic school, he has avoided the acknowledged error of the French, and the suggested fault of Addison. An ancient Greek would have treated the subject differently; but then, to have done so, he must have possessed only the knowledge of antiquity. It is impossible for any one now to produce a play which can be compared with any of the Greek dramas. The poet, to do so, must cast off the events and knowledge of two thousand years. He must attach himself only to the joys and glories of the present life: his passions and affections must be excited by, and fixed upon, that only which is within his grasp: his religion must be that of gratitude, not of supplication and contemplation. He must sacrifice moral effect for plastic beauty, and sublimity for description, otherwise, however good his play may be, there can be no approach to the Greek drama, except in form. Mr. Talfourd has chosen a Greek story, imagined Greek characters, on whom the Greek agency is made to act, yet he has not produced a Greek play. He has, as A. W. Schlegel says of Goëthe's *Iphigenia*, "produced not so much an antique tragedy as a reflected image of it—a musical echo; but it is an image of exceeding beauty, and

"A thing of beauty is a joy for ever;
Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness."

If Dugald Stewart be correct when he defines genius to be a cultivated taste combined with a creative imagination, then assuredly *Ion* is an effusion of genius. Beauty and grace are its characteristics: the efforts of imagination are regulated and harmonised by good taste; the excitement produced is always mental—there is no unnecessary vehemence or overpowering energy—the spirit that pervades the whole is ever sweet and tender, touching and contemplative—it is finished throughout with delicacy, and even serenity of execution, and deeply infused with purity and loftiness of feeling. In so pure a strain is *Ion* written, that we doubt whether its author be able to represent the naturally fierce and sullen passions of men, their coarser vices, the mixed motives, and strong and faulty characters by which affairs of moment are actually conducted, and we are more confirmed in our doubt from the circumstance, that although *Adrastus* is described in an early scene as a heartless tyrant, yet on the stage he wins our sympathies and excites our pity by the touching events of his youth, and the unmerited sufferings of his manhood; indeed, we must confess, that while he lives, he is the most interesting character in the drama.

The minds of men of genius are generally to a certain extent acted on and affected by the prevailing taste and feelings of the age they adorn. The terrific events and mighty changes, the wonderful inventions and discoveries, and what are called "improvements of the last fifty years," have created new wants and cravings of the human mind. The authors of modern works of imagination too often offend good taste by pampering a vitiated appetite for the intense, the feelings they contain are frequently those of a maniac, and the sentiments often the extravagant ravings of a disordered imagination. In no one instance does the author of *Ion* fall into this error; for although there is in his pages sometimes a redundancy of imagery, the overflow of the imaginative resources, and once or twice somewhat too much of what Dr. Johnson accuses Lord Bolingbroke, "the gorgeous glitter of declamation," yet Mr. Talfourd in general never oversteps the modesty which nature enjoins: his language for the most part is sober, reasonable, and subdued, and consequently touching and pathetic.

Ion will suffer most when compared with the models in imitation of which it is written. The construction of the plot is faulty, unskillfully managed, the catastrophe is too apparent to the audience, tantalised by delay through a considerable part of the fourth act. The sentiments are also occasionally clothed in language much above their merits. However touching the love between *Ion* and *Clemanthe*, and it is conceived with equal tenderness and dignity, it would have been better omitted; it is an episode inconsistent with the unity of the design; it is a sacrifice made to our supposed taste, and is at variance with the general tone of the play. It has been objected to *Ion* that it is only a dramatic poem, and not adapted for representation. Its triumphant success on the stage is at once an answer to the latter part of the ob-

jection. The remark that without action, tragedy cannot exist, but that it may exist without manners, is as old as Aristotle, and is not inapplicable to *Ion*, in which there is little diversity of character or manners, but no want of action. The reflections, ethical assertions, diction, and conceptions, are subordinate to the action and the plot, which is another requisite for tragedy. The length of our remarks on the play itself, leaves us but little space to notice the acting. The *Ion* of Mr. Macready did ample justice to the conception of the poet; he completely realized the pure and high-minded youth; the defects of his appearance vanished before the genius of the actor; his description of the warrior, when he writhed

“ In the last grapple of his sinewy frame,
With conquering anguish,”

with his dying wife by his side, and the innocent offspring of their affection, “spreading its arms for its own resting-place,” was touching and pathetic beyond description—had the group been drawn by the pencil of Michael Angelo himself, it could not have been more vividly before the imagination. The dignity and solemnity with which he dedicates himself to the destruction of the king, in the beautiful speech commencing,

“ Ye eldest gods,
Who in no statues of exactest form
Are palpable,”

it would be impossible to excel, or, perhaps, to equal. The whole of the last scene was a magnificent piece of acting. Macready's conception of it was only to be equalled by his execution:—if there was one part finer than another it was the heroic excitement of *Ion* when the slave informs him that the pestilence has abated. We do not recollect ever having seen this eminent actor to more advantage. One of the chief merits of Mr. Macready is, that he is not great only in the principal scenes of a play, but that he is great throughout the whole character; he never descends from, nor does he ever reach, the *hyper-tragic* to the *infra-colloquial*—he is always equal, always the being he represents. The *Clemanthe* of Miss Tree is a chaste, beautiful, and exceedingly correct performance; she delights the eye by her appearance, and charms the heart by her grace and pathos; there is a strong contrast between her *Clemanthe* and that of Miss Faucit. The only other performance to be praised was the *Ctesiphon* of Mr. H. Wallack, which was correct as well as unpretending; the other characters were respectably filled, but what is mere *respectability* in theatrical representation?

THE HAYMARKET.—If the restoration of a true theatrical taste is to be, as it easily may, effected, no small praise will be due to the exertions of Mr. Morris and the acting of Miss E. Tree. Those excellent old plays which instructed and amused the educated and refined amongst our parents, are now only to be heard and appreciated by their children at the Haymarket. Miss E. Tree has long had no rival in English comedy; the truth and interest of the characters of these old dramas, the spirit and freshness of their development, the wit, and nice and delicate allusions of their conversations, are portrayed and given by her in a manner which it is scarcely possible to surpass. Old theatrical going people refer us to the “stars” of their youth, as superior to any actors now on the stage, but the fact is, they are, in many respects, more changed than the stage.

Whatever might have been the merits of others, the *Rosalina*, the *Portia*, the *Myrrha*, the *Clemanthe*, the *Lady Townley*, *Lady Teazle*, *Mrs. Lovemore*, and *Donna Olivia* of Miss Tree will bear comparison with the most popular of bygone days; they are representations of great talent, correct feeling, and exquisite taste. One of the greatest theatrical treats we have received, for long, has been in witnessing the performance of *As You Like it*, at this theatre. Miss Tree's *Rosalina* is the perfection of acting. The wit, gaiety, and good-humour, the provoking loquacity and coquetry of this, by far the most fascinating of Shakspeare's comic female characters, were finely blended by Miss Tree with deep passion, romantic courage, and real fondness. In every interview with Orlando, she brought to our recollection Hazlitt's happy remark on this character. “She talks herself out of breath only to get deeper in love.” Her answer to Orlando, when he promises to love her “for ever and a day,” was so full of fervent love and pretending cruelty. Miss Tree completely delighted and fascinated the audience. Vandenhoff's performance of the

contemplative Jacques, "good Monsieur Melancholy," and Webster's representation of that "natural fool," Touchstone, were both exceedingly good; there is a fellow-feeling, a mutual friendship, a resemblance in the midst of contrarieties between these characters, which draws them together. Miss Vincent's Celia is a correct and meritorious performance, as is also Mr. Vining's Orlando; Mrs. Humby's Audrey is worthy of an extended notice. A new piece, called *The Ransom*, the plot of which is very skilfully worked out, affords ample scope for some most touching and pathetic acting by Miss Tree, in the part of Pauline le Blanc; the struggle between her fear of blasting her own character and wounding her patron's peace of mind is really painful to witness; we do not, however, see what moral is intended to be conveyed by rewarding Edward Durval, who robs his father, with the hand of Pauline, whose character he allows for some time to suffer by the imputation of his own crime.

THE ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.—*The Farmer's Story* is a very interesting piece, and very well sustained by Mrs. Keeley, Serle, Wrench, and Oxberry, and is much more instructive than the agricultural meetings at the Crown and Anchor. We had intended some extended remarks on this house, which will not suffer in reputation under the present management, but must defer them until next month, as our space is limited.

THE STRAND also must stand over until our next.

THE BEULAH SPA, NORWOOD.

There are some peculiarities in the cockney character, to which we cannot feel ourselves bound in candour to plead guilty. One of the most conspicuous of these oddities, and it forms a sort of oasis, as it were, in the dreary desert of the dry and unnatural life of the inhabitant of a metropolitan city, is the propensity which all such persons have to pant for ever after the pleasures of a country life, to devour with avidity all the tales which the poetical imaginations of speculative travellers have recorded of the beauties of lakes, and rivers, and mountains—abroad; and to overlook, in scorn and neglect, the ready and tangible advantages which are within their grasp, because they are—at home. They languish for the wine of Shiraz, which they can never get, and omit to quench their thirst with good sparkling gooseberry, quite as fine, but more homely.

Never were we more convinced of this truth, than when, a few days ago, we were languishing in the sultry abandonment of a London June-day. A thousand times did we curse that cruel fate which binds us to a perpetual and tantalizing town life, scarcely allowing us to squeeze more than a few days length of string per month, and compelling us to a precipitate return so soon as the short furlough has expired. Lemonade, and the last new novel, "a still unravished bride of quietness," were tried, and as soon abandoned, for there was a fever within, that no artificial freshness would allay, "the fever of vain longing." We, too, thought of the lakes of Switzerland, and the lakes of Killarney, of the groves of Athens, and then, alas! of the groves of Blarney; for still the sad reality was too stern for imagination or for hope. There was no escaping from the horrid fact, that the unpruned effusions of many green contributors had to be trimmed, and that the editor's quantum had yet to be composed. The utmost, then, we could do, was to escape for a few hours. Whither? By sea or by land? Steam has put water out of the question. By land then. Be it so.

From deep reflection on the ways and means, we were aroused by a note of invitation to the Beulah Spa at Norwood, with a hint from the writer that we should not, in all probability, think an hour spent there an hour lost. It turned the scale, and in less than an hour and a half we were driving up to the lodge. We confess we are partial to lodges, for the lodge is a sort of index to the parent mansion; there is, in our opinion, more than one kind of Lodge's portraits. In this case the lodge pleased us much, for it is as pretty a specimen of the rough and rustic, of the better-than-gothic, as could be produced, and it harmonizes with the tone of the rest of the place. Having here furnished ourselves with the necessary preliminary information, we set out on our stroll through the grounds, accompanied by a gentleman, whose thorough knowledge of the plan of the establishment enabled us to become identified with all that it is intended to make of the place, as well as with what has already

been effected. And we were not sorry that we were led out in the manner we have described; for it has afforded us an opportunity of saying what we really think is deserved, in favour of an institution which, in spite of the tendencies of the age to quackery, presents sterling attractions of usefulness and enjoyment.

The inveteracy of custom alone can have prevented the virtues of the saline spring at Beulah, from placing it long ago first on the list of Spas. It appears by the analysis of some of the first chemists of the day, including Mr. Faraday, that the water contains the most approved and necessary part of the mineral impregnation in a greater proportion than does any mineral spring in England. This, of itself, is sufficient to stamp its value as a conducive to health. But when to the advantages of the mineral waters, are added those of the fine pure air of the place, and the many delights attainable within its compass, we can conceive but one possible obstacle to the full accomplishment of the object of the projector of the present improvements—that of making the Beulah Spa eventually a place of resort for the nobility and gentry who usually frequent watering places. This obstacle could only consist in the want there has hitherto been of amusements of that superior kind which alone please the higher classes of this country, and we feel convinced that it will be overcome, and the possibility of its after-occurrence prevented.

First among the attractions of the Spa are the grounds themselves, which have been laid out under the superintendence of Mr. Atkinson, in a manner that reflects high credit on that gentleman's taste. As a specimen of the art of landscape gardening they deserve to stand alone, but they have still higher attractions, for within a comparatively small compass is collected every thing that can charm the eye or rouse the imagination. Without the slightest appearance of design, the spectator is yet imperceptibly led to all that enjoyment of a perpetual variety of beauties, which is generally only to be attained by ten times the exertion in a much less confined space. A winding, naturally varied pathway, intersected at every few paces by others striking in all directions, and forming an almost interminable labyrinth of cool retirements, leads round the whole, and presents one from time to time with the most delightful prospects. Here there is a quiet nook, an "alley green," shut out from all observation, though not from all connexion with the main path, in which the mind as instantly throws off the wearying coil of human affairs, as though it were a thousand miles from the "infernal" city; and but a few paces onward the eye opens on a distant prospect such as none but the freshness and fertility of our own country gives, and delightfully expanding the mind after the concentration of the more sylvan scenes in which it has but a moment before buried itself. Such is the perpetual variety which a walk round and amid these grounds presents. There is scarcely a form in which the beautiful growth of wood and underwood presents itself, that has not been seized upon and realized here. Every turn of the winding path presents a scene of a totally different kind from its predecessors, and yet without creating anything approaching to patchwork, for each part harmonizes with the others, forming a most delightful whole. Lakes, waterfalls, interspersed, with rustic bridges, and other appropriate accessories, form a happy relief to the more woody scenery that prevails.

The artificial amusements will be on a scale and conducted in a spirit of harmony with these natural beauties. The plan embraces all the usual attractions of a watering place—and more. High, on a natural terrace, overlooking not only the immediate beauties of the grounds at its feet, but also the fine prospect of miles and miles of country, where the fresh green of the nearer land gradually deepens into the dark purple till it blends with the distant horizon, or brightens up under the rays of a summer sun, commanding such an eternal resting-place for the weakened mental powers of ill-health, will be erected a range of handsome buildings in the modern, the more than classical, style of refined elegance. These will serve as residences for the patients who may be induced to make their stay for the benefit of the waters, while centrically to this terrace, an hotel will afford accommodation to more transient visitors. Within the grounds themselves, refectories, reading-rooms, and other similar means of enjoyment are erected, and they will be conducted on the principal of affording the utmost possible advantage to the visitors, with as little of the constraint of custom as possible. There is also a rustic colonnade, or promenade, of great extent, which affords to invalids protection from the heat or cold, at the same time that it allows them a beautiful prospect. A concert-room, in which the most refined tastes will be consulted, and a variety of miscellaneous amusements of a similar kind, also form parts of the general plan.

From all this, it will be readily seen that the Beulah Spa affords attractions of no

ordinary kind. The change from what it was to what it is, is striking and complete. We can scarcely conceive a place more eligible for the combined purposes of fashion and health. Its nearness to town (not such a nearness as would make it a place of common resort) is its great recommendation, because it enables patients to combine the benefits of the best professional treatment with the pure delights of rural retirement, and the more exciting ones of occasional town life. They can have both almost simultaneously. Still, as we hinted before, every thing will depend upon the completion of the plan, on the full bearing out of the programme. If all is done that is promised, and, we confess, that what has already been done is an earnest of good faith in this respect; the proprietor has nothing whatever to fear, for he must succeed. We are glad also to hear that many of the nobility and gentry have already patronised the place. We know that the waters have been long in use by the discerning—by those who prefer thinking for themselves to following in the stream of fashion, a stream, by-the-by, the course of which is easily to be turned. Indeed, we think those of the nobility who have been here have shown their taste, for the place is admirably adapted for pic-nic parties, and there is as much seclusion and retirement as one could enjoy in one's own park.

A great press of matter prevented us from noticing last month,

THE FÊTE CHAMPÊTRE, REGENT'S PARK.—Amongst the out-door amusements of the season, no one has been more attractive, or assembled a gayer or more fashionable company than the fête champêtre, held in the Regent's Park, on Thursday and Friday last, in aid of the Royal Dispensary for Diseases of the Ear. It is well when charity and innocent healthful recreation can be thus combined. Amongst the many benevolent institutions in this country, there are few that have stronger claims upon public sympathy than that for which the fête was given. The situation of the poor afflicted with deafness is most deplorable: they are but too frequently delivered over by it to utter destitution. Until within these few years they have had no public place of refuge or aid in their misfortune; but now, through the untiring energy of one man in particular, (Mr. Harrison Curtis,) not only has such means of public relief been provided, but the branch of medical science in which they must hope for alleviation or cure of their malady greatly advanced. In general, the fête in support of the Royal Dispensary for Diseases of the Ear is got up with great spirit and rendered highly attractive. It was not less so on this than on any former occasion. In reference to the opinion, whether correct or otherwise, which condemns fancy fairs, that feature in this fête has been done away with, and replaced by a musical entertainment. Sir G. Smart, Mori, Moralt, and others of our leading musicians, with Miss Bruce, Miss Rainsforth, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzwilliam, and the Hungarian singers, contributed to the concert got up in this instance. Miss Rainsforth sang a very pleasing new song, "A Coronet may gild thy Brow." Amongst the company which attended the fête, were the young Princes of Orange, accompanied by Count Stirum, Sir H. Johnstone and suite. The princes appeared greatly interested in examining some of the children who had reaped the benefits of the institution, and especially two children, who had been born deaf and dumb, and had been sent to the institution by command of his Majesty, and they highly complimented Mr. Curtis for the assiduity and skill which he has exercised with so much success in the benevolent object of his life's study and ambition. Among those who contributed gratuitously and so generously to these amusements, we think it a duty to record the very prominent talents displayed by Miss Tipping, the favourite pupil of Sir George Smart. To much personal attraction, she adds all the requisites of a first-rate vocalist, and, we think, that she is destined one day, and that no distant one, to take the lead among English *artistes*. We are old-fashioned enough to think there is a blessing in reserve for that genius that is always ready at the call of philanthropy.

THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

WE have really nothing to add to what, on this subject, we stated last month. Upon the whole, we are doing very well; that is, if we are not enjoying a war-prosperity, neither are we suffering under a peace-adver-

sity. What we have most to fear is, the energetic and almost insane rivalry that is so universally exerted against us all over the Continent. When will Europe be sensible enough to look upon her nations as one family, and thus let each supply the other what she most wants, and thus extend riches and happiness to an unlimited degree. To bring about this consummation all the energies of our statesmen and representatives should be directed.

PRICES OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS.

On Monday, 27th of June.

ENGLISH STOCKS.

Bank Stock, 210.—Consols for Account, 92 one-eighth.—Three per Cent., Reduced, 91 one-eighth.—Three and a Half per Cent., Reduced, 98 seven-eighths.—Exchequer Bills, 13 p.—India Bonds, 1 p.

FOREIGN STOCKS.

Portuguese Bonds, Five per Cent., 82 one-quarter.—Columbian Bonds, 1824, 31 one-half.—Dutch, Two and a Half per Cent., 57 one-eighth. Spanish Bonds, Active, 42 three-eighths.

MONEY MARKET REPORT.—The settlement on the 23d of last month passed over without any defalcation; after which the Money Market, as far as the English securities were concerned, looked up, Consols being at 92, though Exchequer Bills and India Bonds were rather flat. The foreign market up and down, with nothing like stability; Spanish Bonds one day as low as 39, then went up to 42½. Railways generally lower.—a sure indication that people are, if not getting back their money, at least, some small portion of their senses. Towards the middle of the month, the English Consols rose to 92½; foreign securities swayed up and down by every passing report. About the 23d, Consols were steady at 92½; Exchequer Bills at from 11 to 13 premium, and India Bonds from 1 discount to 1 premium. All the South American republican bonds very low; the continental generally supporting their credit. Russian Stock 110½; Dutch Five per Cents, 101 to 102; Belgian, 101 to 102; Danish, 76½; Brazilian Bonds, 87. Home speculations in mines and shares look rather better generally than they did at the beginning of the month. The above is the quotations of the various prices on

BANKRUPTS.

FROM MAY 24, TO JUNE 17, 1836, INCLUSIVE.

May 24.—J. Hagger, Richmond, Surrey, cordwainer.—J. Palmer, Sydney Street, Mile End, carpenter.—J. Potts, Swan Bank, Congleton, Cheshire, tailor.—G. Wootton, Redbourne, Lincolnshire, coal dealer.—K. Shaw, Land End, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, manufacturer of china.

May 27.—J. H. Skelton, Piccadilly, Manchester warehouseman.—J. & E. Sims, Stroud, common brewers.—J. Kymer, Mincing Lane, London, merchant.—E. Staples, Castle Street East, Oxford Street, Oilman.—J. Cosgrave, Raven Row, Mile End Old Town, rope maker.—W. Chifney, Wood Ditton, Cambridgeshire, horse dealer.—W. Pissey, Rayleigh, Essex, draper.—W. Pickles, Blackburn, Lancashire, linen draper.—J. Blyth, Langham, Essex, miller.—J. Sharp, sen., Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, printer.—J. Wade, Lynn Regis, Norfolk, stationer.

May 31.—J. Yeoland, Oxford Street, straw hat maker.—E. F. Grant, Clarendon Square, Somers' Town, surgeon.—J. Ewen, East

Knoyle, Wiltshire, shopkeeper.—R. D'Oyly, Moreton, Gloucestershire, scrivener.

June 3.—J. Snow, Timberham, Charlwood, Surrey, innkeeper.—W. Townsend and W. Brown, Cheapside, warehousemen.—W. Boosey, Chatham, Kent, miller.—J. Felgate, Chichester Place, Gray's Inn Road, grocer.—R. Land, Bridlington, Yorkshire, joiner.—W. Jennings, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, victualler.—R. Yates, Great Wild Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, victualler.—J. Finley, Houndsditch, leather seller.—W. Gibb, Liverpool, soap manufacturer.—E. Harding, Melksham, Wiltshire, victualler.—J. Jeffreys and W. Barton, Liverpool, wine merchants.—J. Frankland, Liverpool, merchant.—R. Ridsdale, Murton, Yorkshire, horse dealer.—R. Legge, Gateshead, Durham, common brewer.

June 7.—E. Rapallo, Walnut-Tree-Walk, Lambeth, merchant.—J. Harwood, Chatham, Kent, grocer.—J. Walton, Redditch, Worcestershire, victualler.—C. J. Berrie, Tamworth, Warwickshire, grocer.

June 10.—W. and R. Dadds, Leadenhall Street, grocer.—J. Nicholson, High Street, Southwark, linen draper.—S. Pearse, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, stonemason.—W. Aspell, Nottingham, music seller.—E. Markland, Great Yarmouth, chemist and druggist.—J. S. Graham, Northampton, ironmonger.—M. Calvert, Manchester, linen yarn dealer.

June 14.—T. Moger, Holborn Hill, cheesemonger.—J. Hayton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer.—J. Hayton, Wigton, Cumberland, shipowner.—J. Hebblewhite, Kingston-upon-Hull.—R. Cooper, Bristol, jeweller.

June 17.—D. Mahomed, St. James's Place, St. James's Square, perfumer.—J. Taylor, Pall Mall, picture dealer.—J. Piper, Prince's Wharf, Lambeth, Surrey, coal merchant.—F. Shaw, Eltham, Kent, shipowner.—J. Hogg, Mithon, Worcestershire, victualler.—M. Millington, Nottingham, joiner.—J. Haworth, Haslingden, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer.—J. Burke, Standish-with-Langtree, Lancashire, shopkeeper.—J. W. Webster, Salford, Lancashire, carrier.—W. and J. Robinson, Sheepridge, Yorkshire, manufacturers of fancy goods.—J. L. Lucas, Birmingham, surgeon.

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Kept at Edmonton. Latitude 51° 37' 32" N. Longitude 3° 51" West of Greenwich.

The warmth of the day is observed by means of a Thermometer exposed to the North in the shade, standing about four feet above the surface of the ground. The extreme cold of the night is ascertained by an horizontal self-registering Thermometer in a similar situation. The daily range of the Barometer is known from observations made at intervals of four hours each, from eight in the morning till the same time in the evening. The weather and the direction of the wind are the result of the most frequent observations. The rain is measured every morning at eight o'clock.

1836.	Range of Ther.	Range of Barom.	Prevailing Winds.	Rain in Inches	Prevailing Weather.
May					
23	63-37	29.89-29.79	N.E.		Generally cloudy, a few drops of rain in morn.
24	62-40	30.12-29.99	N. b. E.		Generally clear.
25	61-34	30.15-30.14	N. b. E.		Generally clear, except the morning.
26	61-36	30.24-30.20	E. b. N.		Generally clear.
27	63-31	30.31-30.29	E. b. N.		Generally clear.
28	64-31	30.31-30.26	E. b. N.		Generally clear, except the evening.
29	69-41	30.26-30.24	N. b. E.		Generally clear.
30	69-36	30.22-30.13	N. b. E.		Generally clear.
31	69-40	30.06-29.94	N. b. E.		Generally clear.
June					
1	65-44	29.89-29.85	N. b. E.		Generally cloudy, a little rain in the morning.
2	64-44	29.73-29.59	E. b. S.		Generally cloudy, raining gen. from 5 till 10 P.M.
3	68-47	29.57-29.56	W. b. S.	.17	Generally cloudy, except at noon.
4	66-50	29.55-29.53	W. b. S.		Generally cloudy, raining from 5 till 8 P.M.
5	57-44	29.81-29.63	W.	.15	Morning clear, otherwise cloudy.
6	65-41	29.95-29.92	W. b. S.		Morning clear, otherwise cloudy.
7	60-47	29.88-29.71	W. b. S.		Gen. cloudy, a little rain in the morn. and even.
8	69-49	29.61-29.57	W. b. S.	.075	Generally clear, except the morning a little rain.
9	66-49	29.73-29.65	S. b. W.		Generally cloudy, except the evening.
10	69-53	29.79-29.74	S. b. W.		Gen. cloudy, rain. heavily from about 9 till 10 P.M.
11	67-53	29.78-29.67	S. b. W.	.175	Even. clear, otherwise cloudy, rain in the morn.
12	69-43	30.13-29.97	S. b. W.		Generally clear, except the aftern. a little rain.
13	73-44	30.21-30.17	W. b. S.		Generally clear, except the morning.
14	76-51	30.17-30.05	S.E.		Generally clear. [P.M.]
15	79-45	29.90-29.79	S. b. E.		Generally clear, lightning in the south very vivid
16	72-56	29.85-29.84	W. b. S.		Generally cloudy, except the morning.
17	74-50	29.85-29.78	N. & W. b. N.	.375	Gen. cloudy, thundering about 3 P.M., with rain.
18	69-47	29.74-29.56	W. b. S.	.025	Gen. clear. [from 4 to 5 on the 19th, and rain.
19	65-48	29.75-29.56	W. b. S.	.35	Gen. cloudy, violent storm of thunder and light.
20	63-47	29.93-29.90	W. b. N.		Generally clear, except the morning.
21	65-47	29.93-29.90	W. b. S.		Generally cloudy, raining from 9 till 10 P.M.
22	62-52	29.86-29.82	S.W.	.1	Gen. cloudy, raining gen. from 7 A.M. till 6 P.M.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

NEW PATENTS.

W. Preston, of Sunnyside, Lancashire, Operative Calico Printer, for certain improvements in printing of calico and other fabrics. April 28th, 6 months.

J. B. Smith, of Salford, Lancashire, Cotton Spinner, for certain improvements in the machinery for roving, spinning, and twisting cotton and other fibrous substances. April 30th, 6 months.

J. Whiting, of Rodney Buildings, New Kent Road, Surrey, Doctor of Medicine, for an improvement or improvements in preparing certain farinaceous food. May 3rd, 6 months.

J. Macneill, of Parliament Street, Middlesex, Civil Engineer, for improvements in making or mending turnpike or common roads. May 3rd, 6 months.

W. Sneath, of Ison Green, Nottinghamshire, Lace Maker, for certain improvements in machinery, by aid of which improvements, thread work ornaments of certain kinds can be formed in net or lace made by certain machinery, commonly called bobbin-net machinery. May 3rd, 6 months.

W. A. Howell, of Ramsgate, Kent, Smith and Ironmonger, for certain improvements in the construction of springs for doors. May 3rd, 6 months.

T. H. Russell, of Took's Court, in the City of London, Tube Maker, for improvements in making or manufacturing welded iron tubes. May 3rd, 6 months.

E. Pontifex, of Shoe Lane, in the City of London, Coppersmith, for an improvement in the process of making and refining sugar. May 5th, 6 months.

J. Banister, of Colchester, Essex, Watch Maker, for improvements in watches and other time-keepers. May 7th, 6 months.

J. Elvey, of the City of Canterbury, Kent, Millwright, for certain improvements in steam engines. May 7th, 6 months.

M. Hawthornthwaite, of Kendal, Westmoreland, Weaver, for a new mode of producing certain patterns in certain woven goods. May 7th, 6 months.

T. Taylor, of Banbury, Oxfordshire, Saddler and Harness Maker, for certain improvements in saddles for riding. May 7th, 6 months.

L. Hebert, of No. 20, Paternoster Row, in the city of London, for improvements in horse collars. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. May 9th, 6 months.

J. Hague, of Cable Street, Wellclose Square, in the parish of St. George in the East, Middlesex, Engineer, for an invention for raising water by the application and arrangement of a well-known power from mines, excavations, holds of ships, or vessels, and other places where water may be deposited or accumulated, whether from accidental or natural causes; and also applying such power to, and in giving motion to certain machinery. May 9th, 2 months.

R. Waddington and J. Hardman, of Bradford, Yorkshire, Iron Founders, for an improved method of making and constructing wheels for railway carriages. May 10th, 6 months.

R. Birkin, of the parish of Basford, Nottinghamshire, Lace Manufacturer, for certain improvements in machinery for making lace, commonly called ornamented bobbin-net lace. May 11th, 6 months.

R. Wilson, of Blyth Sheds, Northumberland, Builder, for improvements in making or manufacturing fire-places, slabs, columns, monuments, and cornices, such as have heretofore been made of marble. May 12th, 6 months.

T. Grahame, of Nantes, in the kingdom of France, but now of Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, Middlesex, Gentleman, for improvements in passing boats, and other bodies, from one level to another. May 13th, 6 months.

J. Ashdowne, of Tunbridge, Kent, Gentleman, for improvements in apparatus to be added to wheels to facilitate the draft of carriages on turnpike and common roads. May 13th, 6 months.

W. Kirk, of Commercial Street, Leeds, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, Music Seller and Manufacturer of Piano Fortes, for certain improvements in piano fortes. May 14th, 6 months.

J. Whitworth, of Manchester, Lancashire, Engineer, for certain improvements in machinery for spinning and doubling cotton, wool, and other fibrous substances. May 17th, 6 months.

D. Fisher, of Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Mechanic, for an improvement in steam-engines. May 17th, 6 months.

H. W. Wood, of 29, Austin Friars, in the City of London, Merchant, for certain improvements in certain locomotive apparatus. May 17th, 6 months.

J. Brown, of Esk Mills, in the parish of Pennycuik, North Britain, Paper Maker, for a certain improvement or certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for making paper. May 18th, 6 months.

T. Beck, of the parish of Little Stoneham, Suffolk, for new or improved apparatus, or mechanism, for obtaining power and motion to be used as a mechanical agent generally, which he intends to denominate *rotæ vivæ*. May 18th, 6 months.

P. B. G. Debac, of Brixton, Surrey, Civil Engineer, for improvements in railways. May 18th, 6 months.

H. Elkington, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, Gentleman, for an improved rotary steam-engine. May 23rd, 6 months.

W. Watson, of Leeds, Yorkshire, Dyer, for an improvement in dying hats, by the application of certain chemical matters never before applied to that purpose. May 24th, 6 months.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY.—*Address of Earl Stanhope, President for the Anniversary Meeting.*—At a meeting of this Society, held at the Royal Institution on the 11th of May, the annual oration was delivered before the members by the President, the Rt. Hon. Earl Stanhope. This address, on the motion of Sir Henry Hallford, Bart., seconded by G. G. Sigmond, M.D., and unanimously carried, is now printed for distribution amongst the Fellows. After returning thanks for his re-election, and congratulating the society upon the additional fame which it continued to acquire, he proceeds to remark on the utility, and to define the nature of the connexion of Botany and Chemistry with the Therapeutic art. At the same time that the analogy afforded by analysis, he observes, was a most excellent criterion on which to form a judgment of the effects of a remedy, where Botany and Chemistry were unknown: the value of a remedy could be known only by experience, and this formed a just ground for inquiring into the real merits of popular remedies, possessing established reputation, the value of which had been established by long experience. In noticing the various papers which had been read at the different meetings during the session, and the several new remedies, or applications of such, which had been elicited in its Transactions, he continued to enlarge on the utility of the objects which the society more immediately embrace. These remarks appear to us judicious and well timed, and to convey, in neat language, a severe satire upon the system of superficial trifling pursued by some eminent Botanists, who are incessantly searching for new plants so termed, but which serve no other purpose than to swell the catalogues with bare descriptions of their-external characters, or further confusing the subject with affected new names and arrangements, and this without any regard to their intrinsic properties or uses. The imperfection of the present nomenclature and classification, as evinced not only by the multitude of synonyms, but also by innumerable cases in which plants are arranged by some Botanists in different genera, and promoting that uncertainty and confusion which is so injurious to Botany itself, and so inconvenient to those who study it, is next pointed out, and a mode of classification in which the investigation might be facilitated by analogy, is considered to be most desirable. On the present rage for isolating the active principles of vegetable remedies, and disengaging the alkaloid from those combinations on which its medicinal efficacy may wholly or in part depend, the noble Earl makes some just comments, which ought to be read by every Pharmacologist. As somewhat analogical with this, he instanced the very complex composition termed mithridate, which was ridiculed and at length expunged from the Pharmacopœia, whilst it has been stated by several English physicians of eminence that it was found in many cases to operate as an anodyne, when all other remedies had failed; and it might almost be doubted whether the boasted refinements of modern science had not been of dis-service to medicine by causing many useful and valuable remedies to be expunged from the *Materia Medica*. The allusions to the recent decease of several eminent members of the Society, amongst whom was that

ornament of humanity and his profession, the late Professor Burnett, are feelingly made, together with a brief notice of their scientific labours. In conclusion we cannot but congratulate the profession and the society upon the possession of a President whose talents confer honour upon his rank, and whose exertions in behalf of its objects are so laudable and efficient.

The meeting was well attended, and at its conclusion, thanks were voted to his lordship, as well as to the managers of the Royal Institution, for the kind loan of their theatre for that evening. The theatre and adjoining rooms were neatly laid out with numerous growing specimens of exotic medical plants, sent by Mr. Aiton from the Royal Garden at Kew, together with splendid specimens of the *materia medica*, of which some of those that were upon the table in the theatre, were briefly remarked upon by the learned and indefatigable secretary, Dr. Sigmond, whose zeal and attention to the interests of the society cannot be surpassed. The noble president's address was listened to throughout with profound attention by a numerous audience of ladies and gentlemen, among whom we remarked His Grace the Duke of Somerset, and several others of the nobility, Sir John and Lady Franklin, Sir H. Halford, Bart, Sir J. Eyres, Captain Maconochie, Colonel Galindo, &c., and most of the leading members of the medical profession.

HISTORICAL REGISTER.

POLITICAL JOURNAL.—JUNE, 1836.

HOUSE OF LORDS, May 30.—Their Lordships met this day, but the business transacted was unimportant.

May 31.—The Slavery Abolition (Jamaica) Bill was read a second time and committed.

June 1.—The House did not assemble this day, but several private Committees proceeded with Railway and other Bills.

June 2.—Nothing important.

June 3.—On the motion for the third reading of a Railway Bill, the Duke of Wellington suggested a short delay, to give time for preparing a clause, to be inserted in all Railway Bills, giving Parliament a right of periodically revising them.—Lord Melbourne, and other Noble Lords, concurred in the propriety of securing to Parliament this periodical revision, and the third reading of the Bill was deferred.

June 6.—Nothing important.

June 7.—The Royal assent was given by Commission to the following Bills:—The Consolidated Fund, the Administration of Justice in the West Indies, the Abolition of Slavery Act Amendment, the Shetland Seamen's, the Universal Life Assurance Society, the Birmingham Coal Company, the Imperial Continental Gas, Gateshead and South Shields Railway, the Teignmouth Watching, Paving, and Lighting, the Dundee Harbour, the Grampound Road, and several private Bills.

June 9.—Some unimportant business was disposed of, and their Lordships adjourned.

June 10.—The Bishoprick of Durham Bill was further considered in Committee, and the clause abolishing the Local Courts of Chancery and Common Pleas struck out, and the jurisdiction transferred from the Palatinate to the Crown.—The instruments of Sasine (Scotland) Bill, and the Bastards' Testaments (Scotland) Bill, were severally read a second time; and their Lordships then adjourned.

June 15.—The Lord Chancellor moved the second reading of his Bills for reforming the Administration of the Court of Chancery and altering the Appellant Jurisdiction of the House of Lords and Privy Council.—Lord Lyndhurst, after a most powerful and argumentative speech, moved, as an amendment, that the Bill be read second time that day six months.—The Lord Chancellor replied, and a division took place, when the numbers were—for the amendment, 94; for the Bill, 29.—Adjourned.

June 16.—The Marquis of Londonderry having withdrawn the amendment of which he had given notice, the Bishoprick of Durham Bill was read a third time, and passed.

June 18.—The English Municipal Act Amendment Bill was reported by the Earl of Shaftesbury, and after the despatch of routine business, their Lordships adjourned.

June 19.—A report from the Library Committee having announced the receipt of upwards of 1,800 volumes from the French Chamber of Peers, containing an account of their proceedings and other valuable matter, the Duke of Richmond moved a resolution of thanks to the Peers of France, which was agreed to unanimously.—A Message from the Commons brought back the Irish Municipal Corporations Bill, with alterations, and requested a conference, at which their reasons for having so altered it might be communicated to their Lordships. The following Peers were appointed managers:—The Lord President, the Lord Privy Seal, the Duke of Cleveland, the Earl of Minto, the Bishop of Bristol, Lord Craven, and Lord Hatherton; and proceeded to the Hall of Conference. In a quarter of an hour they returned, and the Marquis of Lansdowne read the reasons stated by the Commons, which were merely an epitome of the arguments used by Ministers and their supporters during the debates on the subject.—Lord Melbourne moved that they be taken into consideration on Friday next, which was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—May 30th.—On the assembling of the House, the Speaker stated that he had received a petition, complaining that the recent return of Mr. Daniel O Connell for Kilkenny was not a true return.—Sir Robert Peel presented one that excited some curiosity—it was from one of the native chiefs on the west coast of Africa, praying for the establishment of free trade between his territory and Great Britain.—The House went into a committee of supply for the voting of the civil contingencies, which were all agreed to.—The expenses of the Poor Law Commissioners for the year were also voted; they amount to a fraction under 50,000*l*.—Adjourned.

May 31.—Some private business having been despatched, Mr. T. Duncombe, for the purpose of affording the House an opportunity of expressing its opinion on the subject, moved an address to the throne, praying the royal intercession with the French government on behalf of the Prince de Polignac and his unfortunate fellow-sufferers.—Lord J. Russell expressed sympathy for the situation of those captives, but submitted that it was a subject on which the Ministers could not advise his Majesty to interfere; and Lord Palmerston objected to the address as an unwarrantable interference in the domestic affairs of another power.—After expressions of sympathy from other members, Mr. Duncombe withdrew his motion.—Mr. Bannerman moved for certain returns, to show the hardships inflicted on officers of the army and navy from the continued postponement of the customary brevet-promotion. The motion was agreed to.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward the question of the Jewish disabilities, but, instead of moving for a bill, proposed a committee.—Sir R. Inglis and other members resisted the doctrine of allowing persons of any creed, or no creed, to be qualified for seats in a Christian legislature.—After a division of 70 against 19, the House went into a Committee, and a resolution, to serve as the basis of the proposed Bill, was agreed to and reported.—Adjourned.

June 1.—Lord J. Russell having moved the second reading of the Church of Ireland Bill, Lord Stanley proposed his amendment, which was for leave to bring in a Bill “for the conversion of tithe composition into rent-charges; for the redemption thereof; and for the better distribution of ecclesiastical revenues in Ireland.”—Lord J. Russell resisted the amendment, viewing it as neither more nor less than a mode of resisting the principle of the Bill, the second reading of which he had moved—a principle that did not contemplate the advantage only of the few, “but of the whole people, including the outlawed 6,000,000 of Roman Catholics.”—After speeches from Mr. Lefroy, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Poulter, Mr. H. Grattan, and Mr. Hardy, (the latter of whom, in a forcible and impressive address, deprecated the attacks made upon the Protestant church in Ireland,) the debate was adjourned.

June 2.—The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Church of Ireland Bill, and Lord Stanley’s amendment, was resumed, Mr. Barron opening the debate.—A long discussion followed, in which Mr. Maclean, Lord Morpeth, Mr. L. Bulwer, Sir James Graham, and others took parts; after which the question was again adjourned.

June 3.—The adjourned debate on the Irish Tithe Bill was resumed by Mr. Serjeant Jackson.—M. G. H. Ward, Mr. D. W. Harvey, and Mr. O’Connell severally addressed the House; after which Sir Robert Peel rose, and in a speech at once argumentative and brilliant, applied himself to the refutation of Lord J. Russell’s proposition on the duties of a Church Establishment.—After a speech from Mr. S. Rice, a division took place. The numbers were—For the Bill of Lord Morpeth, 300; for that of Lord Stanley, 261; majority for Ministers, 39.—Adjourned.

June 6.—The House went into Committee on the Registration of Births Bill. The clauses, up to 33 inclusive, were agreed to, except the fourth, fixing a salary for the registrar, which was objected to by Sir R. Peel, and other Hon. Members, on a point of parliamentary practice, and postponed; and the 27th, charging the expenses of registration upon the parochial rates. On this clause a division took place; the numbers being—in favour of it, 71; against it, 28. The Chairman then reported progress, and the House adjourned.

June 7.—The Bankrupt's Bill was read a third time and passed; and the Cinque Ports Bill went through a Committee, and was reported.—Adjourned.

June 8.—No house.

June 9.—Mr. Buckingham obtained leave to bring in a Bill for protecting the copyright of engravings, after a division, in which the numbers were—for the Bill, 169; against it, 80.—Lord J. Russell moved that the Lord's amendments to the Municipal Corporations (Ireland) Bill be taken into consideration. He viewed the Bill, as returned from the Lords, as a new law, not a measure to reform existing institutions, but to destroy them. The Noble Lord then proceeded to explain the course he intended to pursue. It was shortly, that the towns included in schedules A and B of the original Bill should have corporations. These amounted to eleven, and the Noble Lord proposed to add Carrickfergus; making twelve in all. Twenty other towns he would leave to be governed by the Commissioners under the Act of the 9th of George IV. In the former case the right of election would be vested in the 10*l.*, and in the latter in the 5*l.* householders.—After speeches for and against the measure from Messrs. Hamilton, O'Loughlen, Shaw, Callaghan, and D. Browne, the debate was adjourned.

June 10.—The adjourned debate, on the amendments made by the Lords in the Irish Municipal Corporations Bill, was then resumed.—After speeches from Mr. Praed, Mr. Sheil, Mr. H. Grattan, Lord Ebrington, Lord Sandon, &c., Sir R. Peel addressed the House, and said the real question was, whether the refusal of municipal institutions to Ireland would interfere with good local government in the towns of that country.—The House divided, and the numbers were—For the ministerial plan, 324; against it, 238.

June 13.—The Irish Municipal Corporations Bill, as amended by the Lords, was proceeded with.—Sir R. Peel said, that after the result of Saturday's division, he should offer no vexatious opposition; but as there were alterations proposed that were not even in print, he submitted that they should first be printed.—The House then went on with the consideration of the Lords' amendments, and restored the principal clauses which their Lordships had struck out; and having disposed of the clauses up to the 87th, the House adjourned at three o'clock till five. On the re-assembling of the House, the further consideration of the Lords' amendments was deferred till Tuesday, to afford an opportunity for the printing of the new clauses.—Adjourned.

June 14.—After some business of minor importance had been disposed of, the House resumed the consideration of the Lord's amendments to the Irish Corporations Bill, beginning with clause 87. The Lords' amendments were disagreed to—two new clauses were proposed, and the schedule, retaining 12 Corporations, was adopted.—The Bill having been agreed to, with the alterations, a Committee was appointed to state to the Lords, in conference, what reasons had actuated the House.

June 15.—The House met at four o'clock, but there being only 37 Members present, an adjournment took place.

June 16.—Among the petitions presented on the subject of the Lords' amendments to the Irish Corporations Bill, was one from Coleraine, numerously signed, presented by Sir R. Bateson, who called particular attention to it; the petitioners imploring the House to adopt the amendments of the Lords, as calculated to defeat the arts of unprincipled demagogues, and to secure the peace of Ireland.—Mr. Alderman Wood obtained the appointment of a Committee, to ascertain in what manner it would be most advisable to raise funds for carrying on the contemplated improvements in the cities of London and Westminster.

June 17.—After a preliminary conversation of some length, the House once more went into Committee on the English Tithe Bill. After considering several clauses, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Monday.—On the Report upon the Registration of Births Bill being brought up, Lord Stanley called the attention of government to the loss that would be sustained by parish clerks, a class of persons quite unable to bear it.—Lord John Russell was not prepared to entertain an immediate proposal for compensation, but thought the sug-

gestion worthy of consideration.—The Established Church Bill was read a second time, and the House went into Committee on the Registration of Voters' Bill.

MEMOIRS OF PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

The following Biographical Sketch of the late Dr. Fletcher, is from the pen of his faithful and attached associate, Dr. Lewins, of Leith, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, who, we understand, is to write a life of his deceased friend, which will appear with the third part of Dr. Fletcher's "*Rudiments of Physiology*."

THE LATE DR. FLETCHER.

It is with sincere regret that we announce the death of Dr. Fletcher, F.R.C.S., and Lecturer on Medical Science at the Argyle Square Medical School, Edinburgh; whose "*Rudiments of Physiology*" we lately recommended to the notice of our readers.

Dr. Fletcher was the eldest son of the late Mr. Thomas Fletcher, a respectable merchant in London.

It was the intention of his father to bring up his son to his own profession, and Dr. Fletcher, after having enjoyed the benefit of a liberal classical education, was actually placed in the counting-house for some time. But to a mind like his, a mercantile life was intolerable, and no prospect of ultimate advantage that it could hold out was considered by him sufficient to forego the gratification he promised himself in the cultivation of science and literature. To science and literature, therefore, he by degrees entirely devoted himself, and at an early period gave abundant promise that in due time he would gain for himself a name and a fame amongst the learned of the age.

Attracted by the superior advantages which the Medical School of Edinburgh presented, he repaired to the metropolis of Scotland in the autumn of 1813, and commenced the study of medicine, having previously attended, though irregularly, the lectures of the late Mr. Abernethy and Sir Charles Bell, in London.

In 1816, Dr. Fletcher obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine, after writing and publicly defending an inaugural dissertation, "*De Rei Medicæ Vicissitudinibus*," which from its excellence—but especially from the uncommon purity of its Latinity—attracted the notice, and we believe, obtained the approbation, of the late distinguished Dr. Gregory, then Professor of the Practice of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

Dr. Fletcher intended to settle in London, but an event occurred soon after he finished his medical studies, which not only frustrated his intentions, in regard to his proposed place of residence, but entirely altered the whole plans of his future life. This event, to which it is here unnecessary more particularly to advert, deprived him of all his patrimony, and rendered it necessary that he should call his talents into operation to provide for his immediate wants—wants which, although nurtured in affluence, he could, to his credit, make few, when prudence or adversity required such a sacrifice.

The system of teaching medicine, and the mode of granting medical degrees, at the period we allude to, (1817,) was in many respects faulty and imperfect. The practice of conducting all the examinations in the Latin tongue, made it necessary for the candidates to employ a class of men, known by the name of Grinders, who frequently did little else for their pupils than enable them to answer questions by rote in bad Latin. Dr. Fletcher's knowledge of this discreditable practice induced him to return to Edinburgh, with the view of establishing a system of tuition akin to that which is practised at Oxford in the way of private tutorship—a mode of life more congenial to his literary habits than the drudgery of general medical practice.

As soon as it was known that Dr. Fletcher had arrived in Edinburgh, with the view just mentioned, the most respectable medical students flocked to him for instruction, and he was thus enabled at once to render his superior medical and classical attainments available; and for all immediate purposes to supply his loss of fortune.

Dr. Fletcher's mode of tuition was widely different from any that had previously been attempted, and the following remark from a critique, written a few weeks ago

at Bristol, of his late publication on Physiology, is particularly applicable to his tutorial course of instruction:—"Many of his pupils, we have the means of knowing, gratefully ascribe to his means of training the distinction which they have earned in their profession, and in the scientific world; but all of them we can venture to affirm, will rejoice to see recorded upon tablets less perishable than their own memories, the lessons which, when orally delivered, yielded them so much pleasure and delight."

Dr. Fletcher joined the Argyle Square Medical School in 1828, as Lecturer on Physiology, and latterly he also lectured there on Medical Jurisprudence. He taught both of these branches of medical science in a manner which has seldom been equalled, never surpassed in Britain. The rapid extension of his fame in the medical and scientific world afforded unquestionable evidence of his superior attainments, whilst the steady increase of the number of his pupils, proved how highly his talents as a public teacher were appreciated and valued.

In the beginning of the present year, he announced his intention of delivering a course of popular lectures on Physiology, which he did to a numerous and intelligent audience, amongst whom were several of the members of the Scottish bar, and of the English church, and several other gentlemen distinguished for their intellectual endowments. The variety and extent of interesting information Dr. Fletcher communicated, the vast store of scientific knowledge he brought to bear on the subject, and the beautiful preparations and diagrams, (all the work of his own hands and which would have done credit to a first-rate artist,) by which he illustrated his subject, delighted and astonished his audience. Little, alas! did they think, whilst listening to his graphic description of the wondrous structure of organized bodies, and his luminous, but delicate exposition of the functions of their various complicated organs, so illustrative of the wisdom and goodness of God, as he justly expressed it, that his sun was to set so suddenly whilst it was yet day, and before he had finished the work so energetically and auspiciously begun.

Dr. Fletcher, whose health for some time previously had been in a delicate state, found it necessary to confine himself to the house on the 3rd of May; but so insidiously did the disease, which was destined within a few days to number him with the dead, make its attack, and continue its fatal progress, that no alarm had been excited in his own mind or in that of his affectionate wife, until a medical gentleman, having occasion to call on business, discovered the actual and alarming condition of his valued friend. Dr. Fletcher was afterwards seen by other highly talented members of the medical profession, who most anxiously and perseveringly rendered all the assistance which their art was capable of affording, but in vain. He expired early on the morning of the 10th instant, in the forty-fourth year of his age, after a week's confinement to the house, and scarcely one entire day to his bed.

The immediate cause of Dr. Fletcher's death was an inflammatory affection of the lungs; subsequent investigation, however, discovered that the condition of these important organs was such as to preclude the probability, if not the possibility, of long life; but it is too true that Dr. Fletcher's intense and unremitting application to study was the means of shortening his valuable life.

Dr. Fletcher was the author of several works of considerable talent, but we shall here only advert to that on Physiology, and on it alone his claim to professional distinction may be safely founded. Of it, two parts only are published, the first on Organism, and the second on Life as manifested in Irritation. The third part on Life as manifested in Sensation and Thought, has yet to appear. Although the manuscript of that part is perhaps not exactly in the state in which the lamented author would have sent it to the press, yet, it is fortunately, sufficiently perfect for publication, and will appear in due time.

The merit of Dr. Fletcher's rudiments of Physiology is universally allowed to be very great; most honourable mention is made of the distinguished author, and of his admirable work, by the periodical press of the last three months, both in England and Scotland. We cannot omit here to advert to Dr. Fletcher's published introductory discourse to his popular Lectures on Physiology, which were cut short by his untimely death—a production of great talent and strikingly characteristic of an original and independent mind. This Lecture was printed at the special request of several gentlemen eminently qualified to judge, who heard it delivered, and were of opinion that its publication "in such a form as to render it easily accessible to all classes of the community would greatly subserve the cause of popular enlightenment."

It were an easy and a grateful duty to expatiate on Dr. Fletcher's private worth—on the refinement of his mind—on the extent and versatility of his talents and acquirements—on the value of his friendship—and on the exemplary manner in which he performed his duties in private life; but as it is consistent in this only to delineate his public character, the writer shall only further add, that by Dr. Fletcher's death science has lost one of its most successful and industrious cultivators, and the medical school of Edinburgh has been deprived of one of its brightest ornaments.

THE DUKE OF GORDON.

We regret to have to record the death of his Grace the Duke of Gordon, which took place at his house in Belgrave Square. The title is extinct. The Earl of Aboyne, born June 28, 1761, the next of kin, succeeds to the title of Marquis of Huntly. Gordon Castle and 30,000*l.* a-year go to the Duke of Richmond. The late Duke of Gordon sat in the House of Peers as Earl of Norwich. He was born February 1, 1770; succeeded his father, fourth Duke, Jan. 17, 1827; married Dec. 11, 1813, Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Brodie, Esq. His Grace was general in the army, and was appointed to the colonelcy of the 3d Foot Guards on the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. He was a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath, Keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland, Governor of Edinburgh Castle, Hereditary Keeper of the Castle of Inverness, Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeen, and Chancellor of Mareschal College. He was brother to the Dowager Duchess of Richmond, to the Marchioness Cornwallis, and to the Duchess of Bedford; brother-in-law to the Duke of Manchester; uncle to the Marchioness of Tweeddale, to Viscount Mandeville, M.P., to the lady of J. H. Calcraft, Esq. M.P., to Baroness Braybrooke, to the lady of Lord Eliot, and to the lady of C. Ross, Esq. M.P. His Grace's sisters are co-heirs presumptive to the Baronies of Beauchamp and Mordaunt. It will be perceived by the above that many noble families will be put in mourning by this melancholy intelligence. The Duke of Gordon was a Conservative, and a more kind-hearted, noble, and gallant gentleman never breathed. In society he was one of the most agreeable and unaffected companions that ever existed. His presence imparted pleasure to every company he adorned. His death will be universally lamented, more particularly in the north of Scotland, where his Grace had endeared himself to the inhabitants by his repeated acts of kindness and philanthropy.

MR. SERJEANT FRERE.

It is with very great concern that we have to announce to the public the death of Mr. Serjeant Frere, Master of Downing College, and of Dun-Gate, Cambridgeshire. This excellent man was, in the closing scenes of his existence, not unworthy of himself. He exhibited to his family the value of those principles of Christian piety, which he had taught them through life; and he died composed and tranquil, in perfect resignation to the will of his Creator, and humbly trusting in the merits of his Redeemer. He was educated at Eton and at Trinity College, and obtained the highest classical distinctions in the course of his academical career. He was an ornament to the University—a gentleman, a scholar, and a Christian, and his loss will be long and deeply felt by all who knew him, more particularly by those to whom his ear was ever open—the friendless and the poor. He was in the 61st year of his age.

Married.—At St. George's, Hanover Square, by the Bishop of Rochester, Captain George Marryat, to Anne Selwin, youngest daughter of the Prebendary of Gloucester.

At St. George's, Hanover Square, by the Very Rev. the Dean of Carlisle, Charles Wombwell, Esq., of the 10th Hussars, son of Sir George Wombwell, Bart., to Charlotte, eldest daughter of Thomas Orby Hunter, Esq.

At Cheam, the Rev. Edmund Dawe Wickham, youngest son of James Anthony Wickham, Esq., of North Hill, Frome, to Emma, only child of Archdale Palmer, Esq., of Cheam Park, Surrey.

At the Church of St. Roch, at Paris, and afterwards at the British Embassy, the Lord Stafford, to Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Canon, Esq., and granddaughter of Charles Carroll, of Carrollstown, Esq., both of the State of Maryland, in the United States, and sister to the Marchioness of Wellesely.

Died.—At his house, Devonshire Street, Portland Place, William Young Ottley, Esq., F.A.S., in the 65th year of his age.

At his house, Great Stanhope Street, W. E. Tomline, Esq. F.R.S., F.L.S.

At Weston Super Mere, Annabella, widow of the late Hon. Charles Savile.

In her 55th year, Mrs. M. Brock, many years attached to the Royal household at Kensington Palace.

At Wimbledon, Charles Henry Bouverie, Esq., only son of Lady Bridget Bouverie and the late Hon. William Henry Bouverie.

At Boulogne-sur-Mer, Thomas Deane Pearce, Esq., formerly Captain in the 14th Light Dragoons.

In Milton Street, Dorset Square, and formerly of Oporto, William Babington, Esq., aged 58.

At Hanwell, in his 87th year, Thomas Robinson, Esq., M.D.